

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
RECORDS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

No. CCCLIV.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, SERIAL No. 97.

REPORT

ON THE

WORKING OF THE THAGI AND DAKAITI
DEPARTMENT

FOR

1897.



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FROM

C. S. BAYLEY, Esq., C.S.,

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THAGI AND DAKAITI,

TO

THE SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Simla, the 8th July 1898.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department for the year 1897.

2. The Honourable Brigade-Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alfred Lethbridge, K.C.S.I., held the substantive appointment of General Superintendent of Operations for the Suppression of Thagi and Dakaiti throughout the year and was in charge of the Department from the 1st January to the 22nd February, when he availed himself of furlough on medical certificate preparatory to retirement. From the latter date till my return from leave on the 2nd April Mr. D. E. McCracken officiated as General Superintendent. I held charge during the remainder of the year.

3. Soon after the commencement of the year orders were received from the Government of India giving effect to the decision, noticed in my report for the year 1896, that fresh departmental agencies should not be established in Rajputana, that the main body of the Najib establishment should be kept at Ajmer, and that in the states in which departmental agencies were not posted clerical assistance should be given to Political Officers to enable them to perform the duties which had devolved on them under the rules sanctioned by Government for the working of the Department. In compliance with the wish of the Agent to the Governor-General a Deputy Inspector was placed under the orders of each of the following officers—the Residents in Mewar and at Bikanir and the Political Agents in Haraoti and Tonk, Kotah, and Jhalawar. The duties of these Deputy Inspectors, who now form a part of the office establishments of the Political Officers in question, are purely clerical, and they are responsible, under the orders of the Political Officers, for the preparation of all returns and statistics relating to dakaiti and the settlement of criminal tribes. These returns and statistics are now received regularly. The Agent to the Governor-General also suggested a slight reduction in the strength of the departmental agencies at Jodhpur and Alwar. These changes have been carried out.

4. No alteration has been made in the number or strength of the departmental agencies in Central India.

5. In Haiderabad the Judicial Superintendent of Aurangabad was, in February, placed in charge of the departmental outposts at Mominabad, Pardapur, and Jalna with a view to his exercising administrative control over the establishments which, owing to their distance from headquarters, the Assistant to the General Superintendent was unable to supervise effectively. As, however, the Resident was of opinion that it was undesirable that the Judicial Superintendent should perform any administrative or executive duties, this arrangement has, with the consent of the Government of India, recently been abrogated.

6. The work of the Department has again been carried on without friction with any of the Native States concerned. It is especially satisfactory to observe that in Rajputana, where a natural tendency existed to view with jealousy arrangements which might, it was apprehended, interfere to some extent with the internal administration of the States in criminal matters, the assistance of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department has been utilised in working out a serious case of mail robbery which occurred near the boundary of the Jaipur and Jodhpur States in the neighbourhood of Kuchawan Road, in breaking up the gangs of Gujar dakaits which had for many years infested the ravines of the Chambal river in the Dholpur State, and in bringing under supervision the predatory Minas of Kotputli in Jaipur. In the first of these cases the Department has not yet been successful, though the enquiries have led to useful results in bringing to light a number of cases of dakaiti which had not been reported and in causing the arrest of several prominent dakaits in Jodhpur, Jaipur, and Bikanir. The operations against the Gujars of the Chambal Valley were conducted in concert with the Dholpur Darbar and in constant communication with the Political Agent in the Eastern States of Rajputana by whom all possible assistance was rendered. The results were in all respects satisfactory, and these notorious gangs of dakaits, against whom it was at one time feared that a military force would have to be employed, have been completely broken up, and the ringleaders have been arrested without a single shot being fired. The manner in which the work has been carried out has been highly commended by the Agent to the Governor-General and has earned for His Highness the Maharaj Rana and for Mr. H. C. Ologstoun, the Assistant to the General Superintendent in Rajputana, and his subordinates, the congratulations of the Government of India. On Inspector Abin-s-Salam, the officer in charge of the Departmental Agency in the Eastern Rajputana States, the title of Khan Bahadur has been bestowed in recognition of his services. The work in connection with the Minas of Kotputli is not yet complete, but has already led to good results for which the Department has been thanked by the Jaipur Darbar.

thus had the advantage of checking the statistics supplied by the departmental agencies with those submitted to the local administrations by Political Officers. A close comparison will show that discrepancies exist in some cases. These are chiefly due to the fact that hitherto it has not been possible for my assistants to obtain complete returns from all States. Under the arrangement described in paragraph 3 by which returns are now supplied to the Thagi and Dakaiti Department by all Political Officers this cause of error will disappear. Most of the other discrepancies are due to the manner in which some of the larger States of Central India are split up; for example, the report compiled by the Resident in Gwalior shows only 175 dakaitis, while the Assistant to the General Superintendent has reported 194, making a difference of 19 cases. Of these 16 have occurred in outlying portions of Maharaja Sindhia's dominions which come within the jurisdiction of the Political Agents in Bhopal, Malwa, or Bhopawar. The further discrepancy of three cases illustrates another source of error. A gang of dakaitis on one and the same occasion robbed four houses in the village of Kharota in Gwalior. The Assistant to the General Superintendent has shown this occurrence as four separate dakaitis, while it has been returned as one only by the Resident at Gwalior. I would invite special attention to the remarks made by the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana as to the comparatively ~~the~~ important character of much of the crime in that province. These observations might be applied with equal truth to Central India.

*No. I.—Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897.

„ II.—Dakaitis reported in Native States during the decade 1888 to 1897.

„ III.—Previously unreported dakaitis that have come to light during the year.

„ IV.—Cases of thagi by the administration of poisonous drugs.

„ V.—Dakaitis arrested, received by transfer, or voluntarily surrendered.

„ VI.—Najib force.

9. I will now make a few explanatory remarks on the annual returns* which are appended to this report.

STATEMENT No. I.

STATEMENT OF DAKAITIS REPORTED IN NATIVE STATES DURING THE YEAR 1897.

Comparison of cases of the previous year with those of the year under report.

Year.	RAJPUTANA.			CENTRAL INDIA.			HAYDARABAD INCLUDING BEHAR.			TOTAL.		
	No. of cases.	Value of property stolen.	Value per case.	No. of cases.	Value of property stolen.	Value per case.	No. of cases.	Value of property stolen.	Value per case.	No. of cases.	Value of property stolen.	Value per case.
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1896	120	82,380	686	243	1,32,421	546	321	1,99,512	621	684	4,14,313	605
1897	121	59,016	487	479	1,85,243	386	552	2,33,604	423	1,152	4,77,864	414
Increase	1	...	...	236	52,822	...	231	34,092	...	466	63,459	...
Decrease	...	23,364	199	...	...	160	...	...	198	...	...	191

The increase, noted in the last two years, in the total number of cases reported has continued. On this occasion, however, it is confined to the Central India and Haidarabad Agencies in which the number of cases is larger by 236 and 231, respectively, than it was in 1896. In Rajputana there is practically no change. It is, however, very satisfactory to observe that the quantity of serious crime is diminishing everywhere and that, though the aggregate amount of property plundered is larger than in the previous year, the average value of the property stolen in each case has diminished by Rs. 199 or 28.4 per cent. in Rajputana, by Rs. 160 or 29.3 per cent. in Central India and by Rs. 188 or 31.8 per cent. in Hyderabad, the average decrease for all agencies combined being Rs. 191 or 31.6 per cent. Two inferences may, I think, fairly be drawn from these figures: (1) that a marked improvement has taken place in the reporting of cases, many comparatively unimportant robberies in which over five persons were concerned being now brought to light which would formerly not have been reported, and (2) that a considerable portion of the cases reported from Central India and Haidarabad, though technically dakaitis, were in fact mere petty robberies committed by persons in want of food. If the latter of these inferences is correct, it may be hoped that there will during the present year be a decrease in the actual amount of crime committed though continued improvement in reporting, for which there is unquestionably still room in almost all agencies, may possibly prevent any marked diminution in the number of cases shown in the return.

The number of persons said to have been concerned in the commission of the dakaitis reported is 23,769 as compared with 10,317 in previous year. The figures are, however, of little value owing partly to the natural tendency of complainants to exaggerate the number of their assailants, and partly to the fact that where several dakaitis have been committed at one time by a single gang of plunderers the numbers implicated in each case are shown separately; thus in the Kharota dakaiti mentioned above in which some 50 people robbed four houses, the number implicated is shown as 200.

Four thousand and fifty-three persons were arrested for dakaiti as compared with 1,957 in the previous year, while 1,101 were convicted as against 316, the percentage of arrests to persons said to be implicated being 17, while that of convictions to arrests was 27. The latter figure is satisfactory when compared with 17.6 in 1896 and 8.46 in 1895. The value of the property recovered is given as Rs. 24,163 against Rs. 16,182 in 1896 or 5.06 against 6.3 per cent. In this respect both Central India and Haidarabad show some improvement, the percentage of recoveries being 6.3 and 4.6 as compared with 4.19 and 3.67 in the previous year. Rajputana shows a falling off from 16.41 to 2.3

As noticed last year the comparison is worth little owing to the changes in the method of reporting brought about by the reorganization of the Department.

STATEMENT No. III.

UNREPORTED CASES OF DAKAITI WHICH HAVE COME TO LIGHT DURING 1897.

11. One hundred and forty-nine unreported cases were brought to light during the year as against 121 in the previous year, showing an increase of 28 cases. Property to the value of Rs. 66,485 was said to have been plundered, of which Rs. 5,150 was recovered. The figures for 1896 were Rs. 46,309 and Rs. 5,678 respectively.

Fifty-one of these unreported cases were disclosed by the agency of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, thus—

In Rajputana	...	...	...	10+1 in Nabha territory.
„ Central India	...	...	...	7
„ Haidarabad	...	...	...	33
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	50+1=51
				<hr/>

The number of cases similarly found out by the Department in 1896 was 58.

Ten unreported cases were discovered in Rajputana, all of them by the agency of the Department. In Central India and Haidarabad the unreported cases numbered 31 and 107, of which 7 and 33, respectively, were disclosed by the Department. The Nabha case was mentioned by a confessing prisoner and has as usual been included under Rajputana. Of the Rajputana cases 6 had occurred in Jaipur, 3 in Alwar, and 1 in Kishangarh. Of the 31 Central India cases Bhopal had 9, Gwalior 7, Dharnaoda 4, Panna 3, Raghugarh and Orcha 2 each and Indore, Dhar, Charkhari, and Rewa 1 each.

The 107 Haidarabad cases were thus distributed :—

Aurangabad	...	...	...	...	23
Warangal	...	...	...	...	9
Raichur	...	...	...	...	9
Gulburga	...	...	...	...	8
Naldrug	...	...	...	...	8
Bir	...	...	...	...	7
Elgandal	...	...	...	...	7
Mehduk	...	...	...	...	7
Jagir	...	...	...	...	7
Nander	...	...	...	...	5
Mahbubnagar	...	...	...	...	5
Indur	...	...	...	...	4
Parbhani	...	...	...	...	3
Ling Sagar	...	...	...	...	2
Atraf-i-Balda	...	...	...	...	2
Bidar	...	...	...	...	1

STATEMENT No. VI.

CASES OF THAGI BY THE ADMINISTRATION OF POISONOUS DRUGS.

12. Fifteen cases of poisoning for plunder were reported during the year as against 6 in 1896. Four cases occurred in Rajputana, 8 in Central India (Bhopal), and 3 in Haidarabad. Property valued at Rs. 880 was plundered of which Rs. 353-12 was recovered. Twenty-five persons were said to be concerned of whom 11 were arrested. The only conviction which took place was that of an individual tried at Raichur in the Haidarabad State.

In one case in Alwar the drug administered was identified as dhatura. Elsewhere the nature of the poison administered was not ascertained.

Poison was administered to 28 persons in all, and proved fatal in four cases.

STATEMENT No. IV (a).

CASES OF THAGI BY THE ADMINISTRATION OF POISONOUS DRUGS COMMITTED PREVIOUS TO 1897 BUT REPORTED DURING THAT YEAR.

13. One case of poisoning for plunder was reported from Jaipur as having occurred previous to 1897. Two persons were drugged and property valued at Rs. 39 was carried away. Three persons were said to have been concerned, none of whom have yet been arrested. The case is still under investigation.

STATEMENT No. V.

DAKAITS ARRESTED, RECEIVED BY TRANSFER, OR VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED.

14. Five hundred and seventy-three persons accused of dakaiti were either arrested or received by transfer during 1897 as against 362 in the previous year. Besides these 32 persons were under trial at the beginning of the year giving a total of 605 prisoners for disposal. Of these 9 were released on security and 11 without security, 1 escaped, 5 died, 297 were transferred to local or other authorities, and 226 were committed to the Sessions Court. The cases of 56 persons remained under investigation on the 31st of December 1897.

Two hundred and twenty-eight persons charged with dakaiti were dealt with by Sessions Courts, with the following results:—

Five were transported or imprisoned for life, 111 were sentenced to limited periods of imprisonment, 68 were released without security, 1 was transferred to local or other authorities, and 43 remained under trial at the close of the year.

The 573 dakaits arrested during the year belonged principally to the following castes: Bhils 125 or 21·8 per cent., Gujars 71 or 12·3 per cent., Gopals 30 or 5·3 per cent., Musulmans 29 or 5·1 per cent., Banjaras 27 or 4·7 per cent., Kaikaris 24 or 4·1 per cent., Thakurs 23 or 4·0 per cent., Korves and Khangars 19 each or 3·3 per cent., Minas 17 or 2·9 per cent., Chamars 14 or 2·4 per cent.,

Moghias or Baoris 13 or 2·2 per cent., Baniyas, Lambanis, and Ahirs 10 each or 1·7 per cent. The balance of 23·5 per cent. being distributed among 49 other castes.

As in the previous year Bhils head the list. The Gujars who stood tenth in 1895 with 9 persons arrested forming 2·48 of the whole now stand second with 12·3 of the arrests—a result no doubt due to the successful operations in Dholpur. It is satisfactory to notice that Moghias or Baoris who formed 7·45 of the dakaitis arrested in 1895 now form 2·2 only.

STATEMENT No. VI.

NAJIB FORCE.

15. The statement below gives the sanctioned scale of the Najib Force and the casualties that occurred in it during the year under report.

		Inspectors.	Deputy Inspectors.	Dafadars.	Najibs.	Total.
Sanctioned strength	...	17	26	31	66	140
<i>Casualties.</i>						
Died	... ..	...	1 *	...	1	2
Resigned	... ..	...	...	...	1	1
Dismissed	... ..	...	1	...	...	1
Retransferred to original appointment in the Police...	...	...	1	...	1	1
		...	3	...	3	5
Actual strength on 31st December 1897	...	15	20	29	62	126

* Deputy Inspector Kanhaya Lal shot by a Bhil at Aurangabad.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL AGENCIES.

RAJPUTANA.

16. Mr. H. C. Clogstoun was in charge of this Agency throughout the year.

Statement No. 1 at page 3 of this Report shows that 121 cases of dakaiti were reported from the Agency during the year, of which 117 were from the Native States and 4 from the district of Ajmer-Merwara, the total being one in excess of that for 1896. The cash value of the property plundered is given at Rs. 59,016, being a decrease of Rs. 23,364 as compared with Rs. 82,380, the figure for the previous year. Fifteen hundred and twenty-three persons were said to have been concerned in the dakaitis reported, of whom 202 were arrested. Of these 106 were convicted, 21 were released, and 2 died in custody. The result of the trials of the remainder had not been reported at the close of the year.

The following table shows the dakaitis reported and the value of the property stolen in Rajputana in each of the last two years.

State.	1896.		1897.		VARIATION.	
	Number of cases.	Value of property stolen.	Number of cases.	Value of property stolen.	Number of cases.	Value of property stolen.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Jaipur	12	4,751	17	15,231	+5	+10,480
Kotah	20	16,746	12	5,765	-8	-10,981
Jhalawar	2	5,482	4	5,733	+2	+251
Tonk ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bikanir	0	11,157	4	1,709	-3	-10,449
Marwar	14	19,653	15	13,555	+1	-5,098
Mewar	35	18,671	39	7,636	+4	-11,035
Shahpura ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bundi	1	20	2	1,315	+1	+1,295
Sheol ... ..	...	...	1	89	+1	+89
Kishangarh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Banswara ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alwar	10	2,050	4	3,918	-6	+1,868
Bhartpur	7	2,205	8	2,516	+1	310
Dholpur	2	182	...	...	-2	-182
Kanoli	1	556	1	116	...	-440
Parbhaghar	3	368	10	447	+7	+79
Jaisalmer	1	237	...	...	-1	-237
Kuchelgarh	1	1,066	...	...	-1	-1,066
Ajmer	2	137	4	917	+2	+780
TOTAL	120	52,372	121	59,009	+1	+6,637

Though on the whole considerable improvement is taking place in the reporting of crime, there is still no doubt that, in some States at least, the figures do not fully represent the number of dakaitis committed. The Assistant to the General Superintendent is of opinion that the returns for Bikanir, Bhartpur, Dholpur, and Kotah may be accepted as correct, and that those for Alwar, Jaipur, Jhalawar, and Marwar are fairly accurate. Respecting some of the other States Mr. Clogstoun remarks: "As regards the number of dakaitis committed the first that claim attention are those of the Haraoti and Tonk Agency. The contrast between these States and those around is remarkable. In 1896, while Tonk and Shahpura had no cases and Bundi only one case, Jaipur had 12, Kotah had 20, and Mewar 35. In 1897 Tonk had 2* cases, Shahpura none, and Bundi 2 cases, while Jaipur had 17, Kotah 12, and Mewar 15.† It is not that all cases in Jaipur are reported, for four cases came to light this year through the small agency in Kotputli while Mr. Gayer's tour in 1896 showed that a very large number of cases were never reported in Mewar, and yet it would appear that the Haraoti and Tonk

* These cases occurred in the portion of Tonk which is under the jurisdiction of the Central India Agency and are not therefore shown in the statement.

† Cases subsequently reported bring this total up to 39.

Agency is safer to travel in than either Jaipur or Mewar. When we include Kotah, which State, there is reason to believe, is as well, if not better, policed than most, the contrast becomes more noticeable still. Banswara and Partabgarh are two other States which are singularly immune from this class of crime. The Marwar group gives us practically the same number of cases each year. Sirohi has had 2 cases in the last three years and Jaisalmer one only. Marwar reports 14, 14, and 15 cases, respectively, for each year. With regard to this State it may be noticed that unusual activity prevailed in 1897 in the eastern parganas of Didwana, Marot, Nawa, and Parbatsar in consequence of the prolonged enquiry into the Kuchawan mail dakaiti with the result that crime here has decreased. The total of dakaitis for the whole State was, however, higher by one case than in either of the two previous years. If this means anything at all, it means that dakaiti has increased in the rest of the State. In the Bhartpur group, while Karauli yearly reports one case, Bhartpur, which is at present more closely looked after, with one case only in 1897, reported 7 in 1896 and 8 in 1897. Dholpur cases have decreased. This State reported 4 cases in 1895, 2 in 1896, and has this year a clean record. The Diwan tells me that serious crime has decreased here in consequence of the action taken throughout the year against the Gujars of the Chambal villages. This may be so, but that surrounding States were benefited is certainly a fact."

Taking the figures for what they are worth it is gratifying to note that in Kotah the number of cases reported fell from 20 to 12, in Bikanir from 9 to 4, and in Alwar from 10 to 4. In Jaipur an increase from 12 to 17 cases took place and in Partabgarh an increase from 3 to 10 cases. In regard to the comparative seriousness of offences it may be noticed that in the States from which the returns are most likely to be accurate the following variations occurred in the average amount of property plundered in each case. The average rose in Jaipur from Rs. 395 in 1896 to Rs. 895 in 1897 and in Alwar from Rs. 208 to Rs. 979, while it fell from Rs. 837 to Rs. 497 in Kotah, from Rs. 2,741 to Rs. 1,433 in Jhalawar, from Rs. 1,239 to Rs. 427 in Bikanir, and from Rs. 1,334 to Rs. 904 in Marwar. With the exception of Jaipur the States from which the most accurate returns are received and those which appear to be the most successful in repressing dakaiti are, as might be expected, those in which, owing to the minority of the Chief or some similar cause, the administration has recently been to some extent controlled by the Political Officers.

As already noticed the assistance of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department was given to the Dholpur State in the operations against the Gujars of the Chambal valley and to the Jaipur State in dealing with the Minas of Kotputli. A separate report has already been submitted to the Government of India in regard to the former of these cases. A letter on the same subject addressed to the Political Agent in the Eastern Rajputana States by order of the Agent to the Governor-General is appended to this report (Appendix C). In the latter case thirteen Minas were with the help of the police of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway arrested as they were returning from predatory expeditions and further arrests have been made

since the close of the year. The thanks of the Jaipur Darbar were conveyed to the Assistant to the General Superintendent by the Resident for the very valuable assistance which he had rendered, and the Agent to the Governor-General, in acknowledging the receipt of a report from the Resident on the subject, was pleased to record the satisfaction with which he had learned the successful result of Mr. Clogstoun's recent exertions in co-operation with the State authorities and to express the hope "that it would always be found possible to render them similar aid in the repression of crime should they solicit it."

At the request of the Resident in the Western Rajputana States, Inspector Daulat Ram of the Departmental Agency at Jodhpur was deputed to investigate certain cases of dakaiti which were believed to have been committed by inhabitants of Jaisalmer. He performed this duty to the satisfaction of the Resident.

The investigation of the Kuchawan Road mail robbery was taken up by Mr. Clogstoun and Inspector Bhagat Singh at the request of the Marwar Darbar, and though, as already noticed, the primary object of the enquiry was not attained, the investigation did much good in bringing to light other cases and by leading to the arrest of several notorious criminals. Mr. Clogstoun's "unremitting exertions" in connection with this investigation were cordially recognised by the Resident.

In July 1897 the Political Agent in the Eastern States of Rajputana applied to the Department for assistance in working out a case of dakaiti which had been committed in the Bhartpur State in the previous April. The officer deputed for this duty was Deputy Inspector Nijabat Khan who succeeded in arresting four of the culprits.

On the whole the working of the Department in Rajputana has, I think, been very satisfactory, and has reflected credit on the local officers. It must be remembered that, under the arrangements now in force, the Department does not take the initiative in working out cases. It places all information which it may collect at the disposal of the Darbars, but only intervenes actively when it is requested to do so. Its aid has been invoked more freely during the past year than had previously been the case, and possibly, when it is fully realised that there is no wish either to relieve the Darbars from responsibility for dealing with crime or to interfere in matters of internal administration, as increased desire will be shown to employ it in cases in which its assistance may be useful.

CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY.

17. Mr. H. G. Waterfield held charge of the Agency throughout the year.

Statement No. I as submitted by the Assistant General Superintendent showed 478 cases of dakaiti as having occurred in Central India during 1897, while the statement No. I annexed to this report shows 479 only. The difference is due to one case in the Bhopal Agency which was proved not to be a dakaiti.

having been struck out and to two cases which occurred on the Bombay-Agra Trunk Road having been included under Bhopawar.

The following statement compares the prevalence of dakaiti in Central India in the years 1896 and 1897:—

Residency or Political Agency.	1896.		1897.		VARIATIONS.	
	Dakaitis.	Value of property plundered.	Dakaitis.	Value of property plundered.	Dakaitis.	Value of property plundered.
	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
Indore	23	12,939	80	22,058	+ 57	+ 9,119
Gwalior (including Guna)	128	57,844	218	94,086	+ 90	+ 36,242
Bhopal	42	42,112	86	43,064	+ 44	+ 952
Malwa (including Agar, and Nimach).	9	880	7	1,509	—2	+ 629
Bhopawar	13	2,251	42	8,670	+ 29	+ 6,419
Bundelkhand	24	10,273	41	10,956	+ 17	+ 683
Baghelkhand	4	6,122	5	4,897	+ 1	—1,235
TOTAL	243	1,32,421	479	1,85,230	236	+ 52,809

The figures given in this statement differ considerably from those submitted to the Government of India by the Agent to the Governor-General. The difference, as already explained, is partly due to the fact that in the statement prepared in my office dakaitis are arranged under the heads of the various States in which they occurred, while in the reports of the Political Officers they are shown according to divisions of political jurisdiction. There is, however, a difference of 33 cases between the number of dakaitis reported to this office and that given in the report of the Agent to the Governor-General, the figures being 479 in the former and 446 in the latter case. This is due mainly to the fact that no separate figures are given for Indore by the Agent to the Governor-General.

The following notes explain the other discrepancies to some extent.

In the case of Gwalior 175 cases are shown by the Resident, while 194 were reported to this office. The difference of 19 cases is due to one case, that of Kharota in Gwalior, being returned as four and to 16 cases having been re-distributed under Bhopal, Malwa, and Bhopawar. Thirty cases reported by the Political Agents in Bhopawar and Malwa have been added to the Gwalior list in this office.

Fifty-eight cases are shown by the Political Agent in Bhopal, while our returns give 80. The Political Agent has shown no details, and it is, therefore, impossible to trace the cause of the difference.

In Malwa 26 cases are shown by the Political Agent, of which 3 have been struck out as not coming within the legal definition of dakaiti. Of the remainder one, belonging to Gwalior, has not been reported to this office, 12 were committed in Gwalior territory and 3 in Indore. The balance of 7 is shown in the statement. Of the 12 Gwalior cases, 7 have also been entered in the statement furnished by the Resident at Gwalior and have therefore been shown twice over.

Of 95 cases shown by the Political Agent in Bhopawar 18 belong to Gwalior, 28 to Indore, and 5 to Dewas. These are included under their proper headings in the statement. Eleven of the 18 cases belonging to Gwalior have also been entered in the statement furnished by the Resident, Gwalior, and have, as in the case of Malwa, been shown twice over.

The figures given for Bundelkhand and Bhagelkhand by the Political Agents agree with those in the statement.

The most remarkable increase is that from 128 to 218 cases in Gwalior, but, as the Agent to the Governor-General remarks, the increase is more apparent than real, many of the cases being petty robberies committed by persons rendered reckless by starvation. The details of 175 cases given by the Resident fully bear out this view, the average value of the property stolen in 68 cases being under Rs. 50, in 14 cases between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100, and in 57 cases between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500. That a considerable amount of more serious dakaitis took place is however clear. This appears to have been principally the work of gangs got together by amnestied dakaitis. Strenuous efforts were made during the year by the Darbar to put down these gangs and, in consequence almost entirely of the keen personal interest displayed in the matter by His Highness the Maharaja, a great deal was accomplished during the period under report. Further success has attended His Highness' exertions since the close of the year, and it may fairly be anticipated that before the end of 1898 organised dakaiti will to a great extent have been suppressed in the Gwalior State. If this is the case the work of the Department in Central India will be greatly facilitated, while the neighbouring States under the Gwalior Residency and in Bundelkhand as well as the adjacent districts in British territory will reap much benefit. The increase in Bhopal is attributed by the Assistant to the General Superintendent to better reporting, but in this Agency, as elsewhere in Central India, there can be little doubt that the chief cause of dakaiti was the general prevalence of scarcity. That this is the case is shown by a comparison of the average value of the property stolen in each case in the last two years which shows a diminution in every Agency except Malwa and Bhopawar, where, though an increase took place, the total amount is still small; thus—

				1896.	1897.
				Rs.	Rs.
Indore	...	...	...	562	275
Gwalior	...	...	...	451	401
Bhopal	...	...	...	1,000	500
Malwa	...	...	...	97	215
Bhopawar	...	...	...	174	196
Bundhelkhand	...	...	...	428	267
Baghelkhand	...	...	...	1,505	977

The average is, generally speaking, so low that it is evident that most of the so-called dakaitis were in reality comparatively unimportant robberies.

Bundelkhand suffered from the Gwalior gangs on its border and the Assistant General Superintendent spent a month in Datia in the spring to help in working some of the cases.

The Indore State had its own gangs of Bhils and Banjaras and other wandering tribes. Owing to the large increase of crime in this State the Political Agent in Bhopawar sent an Inspector with a company of the Malwa Bhil Corps to patrol the infested country. This action had a very beneficial effect in suppressing crime, and considerable credit is due to Inspector Abad Khan for the manner in which he carried out the duty entrusted to him. The Indore State, however, is in the matter of reporting crime, still behind-hand and very little information is forthcoming as to the disposal of cases.

The total value of property said to have been plundered amounted to Rs. 1,85,243, of which Rs. 11,777 was recovered. The figures for 1896 were Rs. 1,32,420 and Rs. 5,551, respectively. The dakaitis reported to have been concerned numbered 14,735, of whom 1,281 were arrested. Of these 406 were convicted, 122 released, 3 escaped, and 2 died. In 1896 the figures were 3,373 concerned, 651 arrested, 144 convicted, 25 released, 8 escaped, and 2 died.

Thirty-one unreported dakaitis were brought to light during 1897. One hundred and forty-seven dakaitis were arrested in connection with these cases, of whom 18 were convicted and 6 died.

Eight cases of poisoning for plunder occurred in Bhopal. Eleven persons were concerned, of whom 7 were arrested. The result of their trial has not yet been reported.

One hundred and ninety-nine persons were arrested during the year and 54 were received by transfer, and the cases of 5 were under investigation at the beginning of the year. Of these 2 died, 133 were transferred to local authorities, 107 were committed to the Sessions Court, and 16 remained under investigation at the close of 1897.

Of the 109 persons committed to the Sessions, including 2 that had remained over from the previous year, 4 were transported for life, 47 were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, 27 were released without security, 1 was transferred to local authorities, and 30 remained under trial on the 31st December 1897.

In forwarding the reports of his subordinates to the Government of India the Agent to the Governor-General writes in commendation of the work done by the Department during the year:—"The relations between the Department and the Darbars have been good. The period under review has been an exceptionally trying one and the tabulated figures do not give a just appreciation of the operations of the year. The number of cases in which dakaiti was the work of non-criminals, driven to desperation by larger, not only swell the total number of cases reported, but, from the view of persons

concerned, make arrests more difficult, and from the nature of property stolen render any but immediate recovery impossible."

HAIDARABAD AGENCY.

18. Mr. W. A. Gayer held charge of the Agency throughout the year.

Four hundred and forty-one cases of dakaiti were reported to have been committed in His Highness the Nizam's territories during the year as against 235 in 1896. The total value of the property said to have been plundered was Rs. 2,00,596, being on an average Rs. 454 in each case. In 1896 property to the value of Rs. 1,70,370 was reported as stolen, the average in each case being Rs. 724. The stolen property recovered was valued at Rs. 10,970 or about 5·4 of the whole, showing some improvement on Rs. 6,931 or 4 per cent. of the whole recovered in 1896.

The number of dakaitis reported from each district is as follows: Elgandal 77, Aurungabad 50, Warangal 47, Indore 38, Ling Sagar 31, Naldrug 28, Gulburga and Bir 26 each, Mahbubnagar 20, Nalganda 19, Mehduk 15, Raichur 11, Nandair 7, Sirpur Junder 6, Bidar 5, Jagir 4, Atrafi-i-Balda 3.

The Assigned Districts also show an increase in dakaiti, the total number of cases reported being 111 as compared with 86 in 1895. The value of the property stolen was Rs. 33,008 or Rs. 297 in each case as against Rs. 29,142 or Rs. 338 in each case in the previous year.

Mr. Gayer, I think, rightly attributes the whole of the increase in Berar to scarcity and that in the Nizam's territory partly to scarcity and partly to better reporting.

Of the 6,568 persons said to have been concerned in dakaiti in the Nizam's dominions 2,122 were arrested, of whom 343 were convicted, 387 were released, 11 died, and 1 escaped. The result of the remaining cases had not been reported at the close of the year.

Twenty-nine cases of dakaiti which had occurred during the year and had not been reported by the Nizam's police were brought to light by the agency of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department as against 14 in the previous year. Seventy-eight cases which had occurred towards the end of 1896 were also reported, 53 of them by the Nizam's police and the remainder by the Department. Of 572 persons arrested in connection with these cases, 137 had been tried and 81 convicted before the close of the year. The cases of 354 persons had not been disposed of when the Assistant to the General Superintendent submitted his report.

In regard to the trial of dakaiti cases Mr. Gayer makes the following observations which deserve the attention of the Mughlai administrations:—

"Thanks to the care taken by the Inspector-General of Police that I should receive regular reports of all dakaiti cases, I think the returns give a fairly accurate account of the dakaiti committed in Haidarabad and the action taken by the police in dealing with it, but I think that something should be said about the magisterial portion of the work of suppressing dakaitis.

"During the whole of the year the only district officials who had powers for disposing of dakaiti cases were the First Talukdars or the officers in charge of each district. These officers, like the majority of District Magistrates in British India, are overburdened with the executive administration of their districts and have little time for criminal work, and, as the most common crime in Haidarabad is dakaiti, the bulk of the criminal work falls on them and naturally swamps them.

"My annual report last year showed that there were on a free estimate 756 persons pending trial for dakaiti.

* Subsequent returns show the correct figure to be 2,324* giving a total of 3,260.

This year's returns show 2,324* fresh arrests, making a total of 3,080 persons to be disposed of. I have no information before me regarding the disposal of last year's 756 persons who were awaiting trial, but I think it may be concluded that all had been tried. We should then have a total of 1,217 persons tried during the year leaving 1,863 persons pending trial on the 1st January 1898 and, at the rate of work done this year, their trial would take a year and-a-half, even if none of the cases detected by the police during that time were touched.

"Information of this state of affairs has, however, reached the Haidarabad Government and I have received notice that powers have been conferred on Second and Third Talukdars, enabling them to try and dispose of dakaiti cases for six months. This order should help the Magisterial Department to catch up the police and leave things on a more even footing.

"If this measure becomes a success and the Second and Third Talukdars are allowed to retain the powers conferred on them after the expiry of the six months, the benefit to the police will be great, for one of the chief difficulties experienced by those of the subordinate police who are really endeavouring to do their duty and to bring offenders to justice is that of getting clues, consequent on the dread both complainants and witnesses have of coming forward with information which makes it likely that they will be called upon to appear before the courts in connection with dakaiti cases. The reasons are obvious. Giving evidence in a dakaiti case has hitherto meant going to the headquarters of a district. This in itself in a country of few roads and fewer railways is no small hardship. After the witness has arrived at court his troubles have only begun for any First Talukdar who really strives to do his duty thoroughly is overworked and the rest are apathetic. The result in either case must be perpetual remands and the witness, who in all probability lives too far from the headquarters of his district to be able to go backwards and forwards, is kept hanging about for weeks and often months before he can return to his daily work, which is probably the only means he has of providing for himself and his family.

"This order will have the effect of removing the fears of witnesses and complainants and the result should be most beneficial. It may not appear so on paper at first, as I fancy that one consequence will be a rise in the number of reported cases of dakaiti though not in the number which actually occur. My reason for this assertion is that during my tour through the Haidarabad districts I have discovered a large percentage of cases of dakaiti, pure and simple, which have been reported as theft or burglary, and not only

reported, but in some cases actually put up for trial and convicted under those sections by local subordinate courts.

"If, however, the courts to which these greater powers have been given will only grasp the opportunity and encourage the police to greater energy by giving heavy sentences to those of the persons captured whom they consider guilty, and will insist on energetic action against receivers of stolen property, I see no reason why dakaiti, which is now the natural crime for Haidarabad bad characters to take to, should not shortly become an enterprise only to be undertaken by the most desperate.

"But if the chance is lost and sentences of the inadequate nature of those now so often passed are still to be the rule, I fear that no exertions of the police will ever be of any avail in suppressing so attractive a form of crime as dakaiti.

"I have received reports of the sentences passed on the 145 persons convicted for this year's dakaiti cases and will give here the results.

9 persons sentenced to 7 years' rigorous imprisonment.

2	"	"	"	5½	"	"	"
2	"	"	"	5	"	"	"
20	"	"	"	3	"	"	"
20	"	"	"	2	"	"	"
26	"	"	"	1 year's	"	"	"
9	"	"	"	less than one year.			
38	"	"	"	whipping only.			

"These punishments would lead to the belief that the persons sentenced were convicted only of technical dakaitis committed by starving people, and that the Magistrate had dealt leniently with them in consequence, but this is hardly the case. In one instance a band of 21 men were arrested for entering a village at night, forcing their way into the house of a widow, and then torturing her by applying burning torches to her person to make her show where she kept her property. For this the accused persons were all merely whipped and let go to wreak their vengeance on the deluded individuals who gave evidence against them. I think every one will sympathise with the Talukdar for thinking that whipping was an excellent punishment for brutes of this stamp, but, if he had given it in addition to 14 years' rigorous imprisonment, he could hardly have been blamed for undue severity.

"In another case in the same taluka 21 persons were arrested for a dakaiti of the same nature in which 2 persons were severely handled and Rs. 150 worth of property described as gold and silver ornaments was stolen. In this case the court, after satisfying itself that 15 of those arrested were guilty, sentenced them to one year's rigorous imprisonment each.

"It would take up too much space to deal with each instance separately, but a glance at my return No. 1, Part I, will show the style of case in which the other light sentences were passed.

"It does not take a great deal of experience to see that this inadequate way of dealing with so serious a crime as dakaiti must be one of the chief causes for its great prevalence in Haidarabad, and must make its ultimate reduction within ordinary limits almost an impossibility."

Mr. Gayer also brings to notice certain difficulties experienced by him in consequence of the length to which proceedings in the local courts are apt to run and of a tendency in the case of some Magistrates to demand what he considers to be an unreasonable standard of proof. He urges that if the whole time of a trained special Magistrate could be devoted to the trial of departmental cases these difficulties would be greatly diminished.

"What is wanted" he says "is a special officer who would be always available and on whom I could rely to convict where the evidence was sufficient, and to hand up any officers when they had neglected their duty, discriminating between want of evidence which proper investigation might have discovered and want of evidence when it could not have been honestly procured."

There is, I think, much force in these remarks and I trust that before long it may be found possible to remedy the evils of which Mr. Gayer complains. By the reorganisation of the Barkandaz Force, by the appointment of a Special Magistrate, and by the cordial assistance invariably rendered to the Thagi and Dakaiti Department by the police of the State, His Highness the Nizam's Government has evinced so strong a desire to put down dakaiti in Haidarabad that it is a pity that its efforts should, however unintentionally, be to some extent frustrated by the judicial authorities.

Three cases of poisoning for plunder were reported, in which four persons were poisoned, three of whom died. Of three persons arrested in connection with these cases one was convicted.

Two hundred and sixteen persons were arrested by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department during the year and one was received by transfer, making, with 27 persons whose cases were under investigation at the beginning of the year, a total of 244 cases for disposal. Of these 3 were released on security, and 11 without security, 1 escaped, 2 died; 74 were transferred to the local authorities, 117 were committed in the Sessions Court, and 36 cases remained under investigation on the 1st January 1898.

Of the 117 persons committed to Courts of Session 1 was transported for life, 62 were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, 41 were released, and 13 were under trial at the close of the year.

19. Owing to pressure of other work I was unable to make any regular tour during the rains and consequently several of the departmental agencies were necessarily left uninspected. I inspected those at Ajmer, Indore, and Haidarabad, Gwalior, Nowgong, Bhopal, and Nimach, and visited Jhalrapatan and Kotah where the arrangements described in paragraph 3 had just been brought into force. I also went to Agra to discuss pending questions with the Political Agent in the Eastern Rajputana States.

20. It appears from the reports of the Political Officers and the Agents to the Governor-General that the work of settlement of criminal tribes

made some progress during the year both in Central India and Rajputana. In the States of the Eastern Rajputana Agency there are said to be no criminal tribes, though the Kanjars of Bhartpur have recently been brought under the rules. In Jhalawar the rules have been applied to Kanjars, Sansis and Moghias, Moghias who are not criminal being exempted. In Bundi no action was taken, but in Tonk and Shahpura progress was made in the work of settlement. In Jaipur the principal work done was that already mentioned in connection with the Minas. The 339 Baoris in the Alwar State have all, it is said, been registered. In Mewar the Resident inspected several settlements regarding which he reports that the Moghias appeared to be fairly satisfied and had no serious complaints to make. The returns show that out of 388 Moghias present on the 31st December 1897, 283 were cultivators, 57 resided with relatives and had no land, 34 were chaukidars with little or no land, 9 earned their livelihood by daily labour, and 5 were in jail. Some progress was made during the year in settling new Moghais. In Bikanir the Resident made a careful inspection, of which the result will no doubt be to remedy many of the defects found to exist. Regarding Marwar the Agent to the Governor-General writes: "The systematic measures started by the Darbar in 1896 for bringing under more effective control of the members of criminal tribes were actively continued in 1897. The whole of those included in class A were registered in the forms prescribed for the purpose. Arrangements were made for restricting their movements. A large proportion of them received grants of land and cattle and formal leases. The Resident personally inspected a considerable portion of them during his cold weather tour." In Sirohi some progress appears to have been made and 134 members of criminal tribes are borne on the register and hold land. No action has been taken in respect of criminal tribes in Jaisalmer. In Kotah it is believed that something has been done, but the matter is not mentioned by the Political Agent.

In Central India there are said to be no criminal tribes in the Bundelkhand Agency and the subject is not mentioned by the Political Agent in Baghelkhand. Major Jennings while Political Agent made a detailed examination of the Moghia settlements in Malwa and Captain Newmarch carefully inspected the Moghias of Karwai, Maksudangarh and Khilechipur in the Bhopal Agency. The Assistant to the General Superintendent inspected the settlements at Bhilsa and Barsada in Gwalior and those of the Bhopawar Agency, submitting full reports to which the attention of the Darbars will no doubt be invited by the Political Officers concerned. The condition of the Moghia settlements in the Dhar State was spoken of in terms of praise by Mr. Waterfield.

21. The establishment of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department has with very few exceptions worked well throughout the year. Mr. Clogstoun in his report has not singled out any officers for special commendation, but he has separately brought to notice the excellent work done by Inspector Khan Bahadur Abdu-s-Salam in charge of the Departmental Agency at Bhartpur.

In Central India the Assistant to the General Superintendent has brought to notice the good work done by Inspector Sardar Bahadur Dyal Singh of the Bundelkhand Agency and Inspector Abad Khan of the Bhopawar Agency. Regarding the former the Political Agent in Bundelkhand writes: "I have a very

high opinion of this officer who is both capable and energetic and has worked hard and successfully during the period for which I have been in charge of the Bundelkhand Agency. He has tact and gets on well with Darbars and I look upon his presence here as highly important to the working of the Agency." Inspector Dyal Singh did excellent work under Mr. Hankin in the operations of 1894 against the dakaitis of Bundelkhand, work which has recently been rewarded by the bestowal on him of the title of Sardar Bahadur.

In Haidarabad the department sustained a severe loss by the murder of Deputy Inspector Kanhaya Lal who had rendered excellent service. Of the officers now serving under him Mr. Gayer speaks in high terms of Inspectors Bhau Singh and Abdu-r-Rahim Khan, characterising the work done by the former as "beyond all praise."

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

CHAS. S. BAYLEY,

*General Superintendent of Operations
for the Suppression of Thagi and Dakaiti.*

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE

No. I.

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897.

Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY.		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaits were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
			Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
	Alwar	4	3,918 13 6	203 0 0	...	10	47	3	...	...	...	...	Of the four cases of dakaiti, three were committed on travellers on the high road and one on a village. The dakaits were armed with swords and sticks.
	Bikanir*	4	1,708 11 0	108 2 0	...	...	21	7	3	...	...	...	One case was committed on a village and the remaining three on travellers on the high road. On two occasions the dakaits were mounted on 5 camels.
	Bundi	2	1,348 8 0	.....	...	2	25	...	...	...	...	...	* Note.—The fourth case of dakaiti occurred at Poppura on 8th May (1897) and was reported to this Department under endorsement No. 1914-G., dated 10th September 1897, from the Resident in Bikanir. This case has not been shown by the Resident in his annual statement furnished to Agent, Governor General, Rajputana.
	Bhartpur	8	2,546 2 0	189 8 0	...	2	105	30	8	9	...	...	These dakaits were committed upon villagers. The dakaits were armed with swords, clubs, knives, and sticks.
	Jaipur	17	15,234 6 6	175 0 0	2	8	162	17	...	...	...	...	Two of the dakaits were committed on villagers and the others on travellers on the high road. The dakaits were Gujar, Jat, and Minas and were armed with swords, sticks, and clubs. They were on foot.
	Jodhpur	15	13,555 14 0	457 2 0	...	14	122	...	...	...	...	...	Of these, fifteen cases were committed on travellers on the high road and the remainder on villages. The offenders were Kanjars, Handas, and Minas and were armed with swords, pistols, knives, and sticks. In one instance the dakaits were mounted on three camels and in the others they were on foot. On one occasion the offenders had covered their faces. Four of the dakaits were brought to eight by the Departmental officers.
	Jhalawar	4	5,733 12 6	21 0 3	2	6	141	20	20	...	...	...	Of the fifteen dakaits, nine were committed on travellers on the high road, three on persons ploughing their fields, watching their harvests, or cutting grass, two on villages and one in the jungle on persons returning with their flocks. In all cases instance the dakaits appeared to be Rajputs. The offenders were armed with guns, swords, sticks and bows and arrows. In most of the cases the dakaits were mounted on camels and some of others on foot.
	Karauli	1	116 15 0	Twine and an old turban.	...	2	25	22	...	10	...	2	Three dakaits were committed on villages and one on the high road. The dakaits were armed with guns, clubs, and sticks and were on foot. On one occasion the offenders were Banjara by caste and used a lighted torch. They bound the hands of the complainant's wife with cloth which they then set on fire. In another case the dakaits seized and tortured a woman and her daughter.
	Kotah	12	5,765 9 3	30 6 6	6	12	183	65	52	...	...	...	This dakaiti was committed on travellers on the high road. The offenders had sticks and were on foot.
	Mewar	29	7,636 3 9 Bullocks, clothes, and books.	270 12 0 Bullocks, clothes and, books.	3	32	447	8	4	...	...	...	Seven cases were committed on villages, two on travellers on the high road, one on a Kanjar and others of his party while sleeping under a banana tree, two on Banjars and other persons encamped in a jungle and a garden. The dakaits were Gauria Banjars, Rajputs, Balagis, Lohars, and Bhils by caste and were armed with guns, hatchets, a pistol, and sticks. They were on foot.
	Carried over		57,551 15 6	1,414 14 9	8	68	1,278	172	57	19	...	2	Six cases were committed on villages, fourteen cattle while grazing, three on persons in their fields or encamped in the jungle and the remainder on travellers on the high road. The dakaits were Minas, Banjars, Kanjars, Palis, and Bhils by caste and were armed with swords, guns, axes, sticks, lances, spears and bow and arrows.

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897—contd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY.		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaits were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Disd.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
RAMPURANA—contd.														
		Brought forward		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
		Sirohi	1	57,561 15 6	1,414 14 9	8	88	1,278	172	67	19	...	2	This case was committed upon travellers on the high road. The dakaits were armed with guns and swords and were on foot.
		Ajmer	4	86 5 3	.....	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	These cases were committed on travellers on the high road. The dakaits were armed with sticks and one man had a pistol. In two instances they muffled up their faces.
		Parbhargarh.	10	447 13 0	10 bullocks 1 cart and other property.	5	6	221	30	10	2	...	...	These were principally house dakaits. One was committed in the jungle and one was a cattle theft. The dakaits were chiefly Bhils, but in two cases they were said to be Vilayatis.
		Total	...	60,016 8 3	1,414 14 9	13	100	1,521	202	106	21	...	2	
CENTRAL INDIA.														
	Indore Agency.	Indore	69	20,710 11 3	879 2 0	6	51	1,588	88	8	...	...	...	One case was committed in the jungle, one on persons watching their hotel fields, three on cattle, three on grain stores, twenty seven on travellers on the high road and the remainder on villages. The dakaits were Gojars, Bhils, Barjars, Kahars, Musulmans, Pardhis, Bagris, Nihals, Munis, Purbias, Bhilalas, Balais, Chamars, and other Hindus and were armed with guns, pistols, sword, hatchets, clubs, slings, bows and arrows, lahargas and sticks. They were on foot. In one case four of the criminals were riding. On three occasions they tied and muffled up their faces. Nine of the dakaits were reported by the Departmental Officers.
		Bagli...	3	1,075 9 6	.....	...	...	53	2	...	...	...	...	All of these were highway dakaits committed by offenders who were armed with guns, swords, and sticks. A reward of Rs. 30 has been offered by the British state for the arrest of the criminals in one case.
		Dewas	8	273 7 6	Bullocks ...	...	...	59	3	2	...	...	...	Of these dakaits three were perpetrated upon travellers on the high road, one on persons grazing their goats, one on a village, and three on persons watching their fields. The dakaits were Bhils and Musulmans by caste, and were armed with swords, hatchets, pears, sticks, and bows and arrows. They were on foot. On one occasion the offenders beat the complainants.
		Gwalior	101	86,305 15 3	1,937 9 5	12	69	6,512	536	202	26	...	2	One of these cases was committed on a threshing floor, two on carts, two on shops, seven on corn stacks, twenty-two on cattle, thirty four on travellers on the high road and the rest on villages. The offenders were B. A. wals, Ahirs, Musulmans and Pardhis, Musulmans, Gojars, Thakurs, Chamaris, Balais, Kachhis, Boharas, Nihals, Sonpurs, Barjars, Kharjars, Ahirs, Bhils, Barjars, Musulmans, Bagris, Bhilalas, Manjars, Kanjars, Pardhis, Bandhars, Vilayatis and other Hindus and were armed with guns, matchlocks, sticks, axes, hatchets, clubs, lahargas, bows and arrows and sticks. In some cases they were on foot and in one four of them were mounted. They had lighted torches in two dakaits.
	Ujjain Agency.	Sirsi...	3	610 6 0	.....	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	Three village cases were committed by dakaits who appeared to be Bawal-Gujars armed with guns and swords.
		Baghargarh.	3	279 14 6	.....	...	...	161	...	...	...	...	...	Of these one was a case of cattle lifting and two were committed on travellers on the high road. The dakaits were armed with guns, swords, sticks, and lahargas, and were on foot.
		Umer...	6	157 9 0	.....	2	5	103	...	...	...	...	...	Three dakaits were perpetrated on villages and two on travellers on the high road, and one was a case of cattle lifting. The dakaits were armed with guns, swords, sticks, and lahargas. In one case the offenders tied and muffled up their faces. In one case they were on foot and in one four of them were mounted. They had lighted torches in two dakaits.
		Total	...	1,028 13 9	3,516 11 5	20	145	11,223	629	315	57	...	2	

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897—contd.

Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaits were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, etc.	
			Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
Gwalior Agency—contd.	Brought forward			1,09,813 9 0	5,816 11 5	20	148	11,599	629	212	26	...	2	
	Agra ...	3		4,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	...	1	30	...	...	...	...	...	The offenders, who were armed with guns, swords <i>lohngis</i> , and clubs, committed 1 dakaity on a Mina. Two of the cases were cattle raids.
	Barkhera													
	Tonk	3		922 0 0	.....	1	8	47	...	...	...	...	...	One case was perpetrated upon travellers on the high road and one on a village. One was a cattle raid. The dakaits were armed with muskets and iron bound sticks and appeared to be Khangars or Banjaras and Musulmans. On one occasion they fired guns.
	Dhar-naoda.	2		159 10 0	1 0 0	...	2	41	12	3	...	...	...	Both the cases were committed upon travellers on the high road by offenders who were armed with sticks and clubs.
Bhopal Agency.	Bhadaura	1		.....	.....	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	The dakaits were Saharias and Gujars by caste, and were armed with guns and swords.
	Garha...	3		1,254 0 0	.....	...	...	36	8	...	...	...	...	All these were cattle raids. The dakaits were armed with guns and swords.
	Bhopal	80		35,480 6 1	806 0 6 and 1 gun.	3	43	1,397	266	8	14	...	1	Seventy-five dakaits were committed upon villages and five on travellers on the high road. The offenders were Gonds, Hindus, Musulmans, <i>Mewatis</i> , <i>Chamars</i> , <i>Lodhis</i> , <i>Thakurs</i> , <i>Moghias</i> , <i>Sansis</i> , <i>Banjaras</i> , <i>Rajpurbansis</i> , <i>Rajputs</i> , <i>Khangars</i> , <i>Kirhas</i> and <i>Vilayatis</i> by caste, and were armed with guns, swords, and sticks. In four cases some of the dakaits were riding on horses. On two occasions the criminals beat the complainants while in other they ill-treated the complainant and his wife. In one instance the offenders burnt the complainant's clothes. Thirty-seven of the cases were brought to light by the Departmental Inspectors.
	Sironj (Tonk.)	2		6,156 8 0	.....	1	...	66	...	...	...	...	...	Both cases were perpetrated on villages by Moghias and Gujars, armed with guns, swords and pistols and were reported by the Departmental Inspector.
	Nar-singh-garh.	3		572 7 3	.....	1	6	55	3	...	...	...	...	The dakaits, who were armed with guns, swords and cattle, one of the cases was reported by a Departmental Inspector.
Malwa Agency	Kurwai	1		856 2 0	.....	...	1	12	10	...	...	...	...	This dakaity reported by a Departmental Inspector was committed on a Rajput.
	Jaora ...	2		661 1 0	.....	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	The dakaits were committed in one case upon two Brahmins on the high road and in the other on a village. The dakaits were armed with guns.
	Ratlam	3		328 6 3	.....	...	3	32	5	...	...	...	...	Attacked by Bhils armed with arrows. The occasion they were the Ratlam Darbar has offered a reward of Rs. 60 for the arrest of the offenders.
	Sailana	2		520 0 0	.....	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	These were cattle raids. The dakaits were Bhils.
	Barwani.	13		1,173 0 6	73 2 6	...	9	135	85	51	27	...	...	Four of these cases were committed on travellers on the high road and the remainder on villages. The dakaits were Bhils and were armed with guns, swords, daggers, spears, sticks, slings, clubs, and bows and arrows. They were on foot.
	Carried over			1,61,897 2 1	8,786 14 5	26	222	13,486	1,018	374	67	...	3	

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897—contd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITIS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaitis were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, etc.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
		Brought forward		1,61,897 2 1	8,786 14 5	26	222	13,486 1,018	274	67	...	...	3	
		Bhopalwar Agency—contd.												
		Dhar ...	24	5,812 3 3	1,242 7 9	...	25	547 130	96	26	...	...	...	One case was a raid on loads of wheat, one on certain Kumhars living on the banks of the river, ten on travellers on the high road, and the rest on villages. The dakaitis were Sondhias, Bhils, Bhilalas, Minas, Moghias, Naiks, Kanjars, and Musulmans, and were armed with guns, swords, spears, a hatchet, sticks, bows and arrows, clubs, spears, and slings. They were on foot. In two cases four of the criminals were mounted.
		Bhopalwar Agency—contd.												
		Bhopalwar, Agra, Bombay Trunk Road, Ali-Rajpur.	1	43 0 0	40 0 0	...	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	The dakaitis, who were Bhils armed with swords and sticks, attacked the houses of certain persons. They were on foot.
		Bhopalwar, Agra, Bombay Trunk Road, Ali-Rajpur.	2	836 1 0	13 0 0	...	...	21	8	8	...	...	...	.....
		Bhopalwar, Agra, Bombay Trunk Road, Ali-Rajpur.	1	61 12 0	.....	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	This was a road dakaiti perpetrated by Bhils. The offenders were armed with clubs and were on foot.
		Jhabua	1	745 2 0	.....	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	This dakaiti was committed on travellers on the high road. The criminals were Sansis and were armed with swords, pistols, and sticks. They were on foot.
		Jughelkhand Agency												
		Rowa	1	10 11 0	9 3 0	...	...	8	8	7	1	...	...	This village dakaiti was perpetrated by dakaitis who were armed with sticks and were on foot.
		Baghelkhand.	4	4,877 12 3	1,614 3 0	...	2	65 43	21	21	1	...	...	One case was committed on a village and the rest on travellers on the high road. The dakaitis were Brahmans and Kahars by caste, and were armed with sticks. All were on foot.
		Orcha	5	715 12 6	25 0 9	...	1	70 13	...	...	2	...	...	All were village dakaitis committed by Thakurs, Khangars, Ahirs, and Lodhis who were armed with guns, swords, sticks, crowbars, clubs, and pickaxes, and were on foot.
		Panna	12	813 7 6	43 2 0	...	13	101 12	...	...	...	...	...	One case was a raid on goats, three on villages and the remainder on travellers on the high road. The dakaitis were Kols, Gondes, Sour, Thakurs, Kuchis, Chamlis, Lohars, Nats, and Banjaras and were armed with guns, swords, clubs and sticks.
		Datia	14	7,639 12 0	15 seers jawar and 1 uhoti.	3	25	279 20	...	7	...	...	...	The dakaitis who were Khangars, Kuchbans, Namabardars, Thakurs, Gujars, and Ahirs armed with guns, swords, clubs, axes, matchlocks and sticks, committed one case on travellers on the high road and the rest on villages. Two of the dakaitis were on horse back. In one instance, the dakaitis fired six guns shots.
		Bundelkhand Agency—contd.												
		Samthar	3	768 4 0	4 0 0	...	7	66 22	...	...	...	...	...	These village dakaitis were committed by criminals armed with guns, swords, and sticks.
		Chattarpur.	1	591 0 0	.....	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	This case was committed upon a village. The dakaitis were armed with guns and swords and were on foot.
		Char-khari.	1	75 14 0	.....	...	...	11	7	...	...	...	...	The dakaitis who were Kachis, Chamlis, Lohars, and Nats by caste, committed this village case on a Bhila.
		Rijawar	5	155 6 3	.....	...	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	Of these, one case was a raid on goats and the remainder on travellers on the high road. The dakaitis were Gondes, Khangars, Ahirs, and Banjaras and were armed with guns, swords, and clubs. They were on foot.
		Total Central India.	179	1,55,243 3 10 and bullocks.	11,777 14 11	29	292	14,735 128,485	122	3	3			

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897—contd.

Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaits were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, etc.	
			Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.										
HAIDARABAD.	Atraf-i-Balda.	3	2,596 5 0	95 4 0	1 3	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The dakaits, who were Rohillas, Hindus, Mussulmans and Arabs by caste, committed one case on travellers on the high road and two upon villages. They were armed with guns, a sword, and sticks.
	Aurangabad	50	13,954 5 0	1,061 12 9 and 2 Dandis.	1 15	732	195	21	58	...	...	...	...	One of the dakaits was committed upon a temple, five on travellers on the high road, six on persons sleeping or watching their jawar and sugarcane fields, and the rest on villages. The dakaits were Bhils, Mangs, Mussulmans, Banjaras, Hindus, Dhers, Geris, Arabs, Gopals, Telangas, Gaulis, Mahrattas, Pardis, Pasis, Chamars, Harkars, and Mali by caste, and were armed with guns, swords, slings, sticks, stones, arrows, pick-axes and daggers. On thirteen occasions, they beat the complainants with the handle of pick-axes and sticks.
	Bider	5	763 2 0	66 8 6	2 9	102	39	11	...	...	...	...	...	In one case the criminals beat the complainant's son slightly and tied up his hands and legs and in the other they stabbed the son of the second complainant with a dagger. In two cases the offenders, who were on foot, had a horse and pony. The dakaits were conversing in Telugu and Tamil in one case. In one case, the dakaits caught the complainant's wife by her hair and applied a burning stick to her face in order to make her show the property. Twenty of the cases were reported by Departmental Officers.
	Bir	26	7,423 9 9	587 4 6	1 63	388	195	8	...	...	...	...	2	The dakaits who were Mahars, Mussulmans, Lambaras, Bhill, Holsars, Mahrattas, Rohillas, Banjaras, Pasis, and Pardis by caste, and were armed with guns, swords, axes, sticks, pick-axes, sticks bound with iron, stones, slings and daggers. The criminals beat and stoned the complainants in two instances.
	Elgandal	77	19,244 1 0	1,154 5 6	4 48	1,036	326	19	123	...	...	...	...	Of the seventy-seven cases six were committed on travellers, rest on villages. Kolls, Mussulmans, Pahlawans, Kunbis, Nalkwars, Lambaras, Dhers, and Mangs and were armed with guns, swords, pistols, knives, axe, sticks, slings, stones, and a spear. In twelve cases, they spoke Lambari, Urdu, and Telugu. In thirteen instances they beat and pinioned the complainants.
	Carried over		43,981 6 9	2,965 3 3	9 138	2,358	755	69	151	...	...	...	2	In one case the criminal wrenched an ear-ring from complainant's wife, tearing off the her ear and in another they cut off a portion of a person's left ear. The dakaits applied burning torches to the persons of the inmates of the house in two cases while in one they threw burning oil on the complainant's stomach. On one occasion they bound the complainant and his daughter and in the other, they burnt the complainant's hands. The dakaits in one instance lighted a torch and applied it to the thigh of the complainant and in two cases they caught hold of the complainant's wife and burnt her to make them show the property.

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897—contd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaitis were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, etc.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Conceded.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
		Brought forward		43,981 6 9	2,965 3 3	9	138	2,358	755	59	181	...	2	
		Gulburga ...	26	8,954 9 6	1,275 13 2	4	20	403	145	61	48	...	2	The dakaitis who were Musulmans, Telangas, Lingayats, Dhers, Pardis, Dhangers, Bukhals, Bidars, Lambars, Mangs, Waddars, Kolis, Hindus, Kaikaris and Multanis by caste and were armed with guns, swords, axes, daggers, slings and stones, committed twenty cases upon villages, three on persons watching fields or sleeping and three on travellers on the high road. In four dakaitis the dakaitis spoke Canarese, Telugu, Urdu and Mahratti and beat and burnt the complainants with torches.
		Indur ...	38	12,021 8 0	615 1 3	3	26	338	54	...	...	...	...	Of these cases, four were perpetrated upon persons sleeping, grazing goats, or watching their fields, thirteen on travellers on the high road, one on a flock of sheep grazing in the jungle and the rest on villages. The dakaitis were Dhers, Hindus, Musulmans, Lambars, Banjaras and Rohillas by caste and were armed with guns, swords, axes, pistols, daggers, spears, iron pegs, knives, sticks and lances. They spoke Telegu, Mahratti and Urdu languages. On thirteen occasions the criminals beat the complainants, applied burning torches to their persons, tied, and pinioned them. In one case they hit the complainant and his wife with the butt of the gun and speared him near his eye while in another they set fire to the house with matches.
		Jagir ...	4	260 0 0	105 10 0	1	...	128	8	...	...	...	...	The dakaitis who were armed with sticks and axes committed one case on a traveller on the high road and the remainder on villages. In one instance they burnt the complainant and in another they beat the complainant so that she became unconscious.
		Lingsagar	31	6,436 6 6	770 1 9	2	23	578	170	10	56	...	...	Two cases were committed upon flocks of sheep grazing in the jungle, three on travellers on the high road, and the remaining twenty-six on villages. The dakaitis were Hindus, Musulmans, Banjaras, Lambars, Brahmans and Jangams, and were armed with guns, swords, axes, slings, sticks, stones, and knives. On seven occasions, burning torches were applied to the persons of the complainants and in one the criminals pinioned the complainant and tied him in a bag and threw him on the ground.
		Mahbubnagar	20	23,116 8 0	563 1 0	3	...	238	56	8	...	...	...	Of the twenty cases fifteen were committed upon villages, one on a person watching field and one on travellers on the high road. The dakaitis who were Lambars, Musulmans, Telangas, Bidars, Hindus, Siddis, and Arabs by caste, armed with guns, pistols, swords, slings and sticks, were on foot. In one instance, they were dressed like police.
		Mehdun ...	16	5,920 2 0	153 14 0	1	10	161	19	7	4	...	...	Ten of these cases were committed on travellers on the high road, one on persons watching a field and one on a flock of sheep. The dakaitis were Telangas, Musulmans, Hindus, and Dhers armed with guns, swords, slings, spears and sticks and were on foot. In one case the dakaitis mutilated their faces and in another they beat the complainant's wife and sister-in-law. One of these cases was reported by a Departmental Officer.
		Naldurg ...	28	13,931 7 3	250 3 6	6	12	557	123	13	8	...	...	Twenty three cases were committed upon villages, three on persons watching fields and two in jungles. The dakaitis were Musulmans, Mahrattas, Mangs, Dhers, Pardis, Kaikaris, Chomars, Lambars, Kolis and Hindus and were armed with guns, swords, axes, slings, stones, and sticks. In one instance two of the dakaitis were mounted. They beat the complainants. In nine cases and in one they burnt the complainant's wife.
		Carried over		1,14,615 0 0	6,638 15 11	22	220	4,791	1,225	164	227	...	4	

HAIDARABAD—contd.

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897.—contd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaits were or appeared to be how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
		Brought forward		1,14,625 0 0	6,698 15 11	29	229	4,791	1,330	164	297	...	4	
		Nalgunda ...	19	21 519 1 0	296 6 3	1	10	279	146	87	43	...	7	Of these dakaits eighteen were committed upon villages and one on travellers on the high road. The offenders were ... Hindus by caste, and swords, bows, axes, ... stones, and knives. On three occasions the criminals burnt the complainants with torches, and in two they beat and pinioned the complainants. In one instance the dakaits were dressed like police. The offenders in one case threw the complainant and his nephew down from the upper story of the house and then hanged the complainant to the beam of the house and threw burning oil on him and beat his wife to make her show the property.
		Nandair ...	7	3,916 2 0	139 14 0	...	6	89	26	15	5	...	...	The dakaits who were Patbars, Hindus, Banjaras, Muslims, Lambaras and Maharrats by caste, armed with guns, swords, slings, sticks committed 5 cases upon villages, 1 on travellers on the high road and 1 on persons watching cattle. In 2 cases they muffled up their faces. On 2 occasions they beat the complainants.
		Parbhani ...	28	6,745 8 5	232 12 6	4	8	419	73	12	15	...	...	Three of the dakaits were committed upon persons in jungles, 2 on persons in fields, 1 on a landa and the remainder on villages. The dakaits were Pardhis, Dhers, Maogs, Karkaris, Banjaras, Maharrats, Muslims and Halkars by caste, and were armed with guns, swords, slings, and sticks. On 7 occasions the offenders beat the complainants. Two of the cases were reported by Departmental officers.
		Raichur ...	11	9,166 1 9	731 6 9	2	10	162	110	4	13	1	...	... villages, 2 on lock of sheep were Bedars, Telangas, Banjaras, Jangans, Weavers, Kolis, Dholis, Arabs, ... and were armed with daggers. complainants them with their turbans while in 3 they beat the complainants. Six of these cases were brought to light by Departmental officers.
		Sirpur Tandur.	6	2,313 2 0	365 5 3	...	7	63	32	8	2	...	...	All of these were village dakaits committed by gangs of Gonds, Parkulwars, Rohillas, Muslims and Beldars armed with guns, swords, and sticks. In three cases they were on foot.
		Warangal...	47	42,281 12 1	2,506 1 6	4	18	765	405	53	12	...	...	The criminals who were Yerkalwars, Lambaras, Dhers, Kumbis, Kolis, Dhangars, Banjaras, Hajams, Gonds and a person high road armed with guns, swords, axes, knives, sticks and stones. In 15 instances, the dakaits beat, pinioned, and blindfolded the complainants while in they burnt a complainant with hot oil. They were on foot in 3 cases.
		Total Haidarabad.	441	2,00,596 11 3	10,970 14 2	40	283	6568	2122	343	387	1	11	
		Amraoti ...	16	1,249 9 6	.....	3	5	54	52	14	38	...	...	On on 1 the ... and Banjaras by caste and were armed with swords, sticks, and stones.
		Akola ...	21	3,751 5 2	.....	1	32	270	70	26	24	...	...	One of the dakaits was committed upon 3 watchmen in a garden, 1 on a temple 3 on fields, 2 in jungles, 6 on travellers on the high road and the rest upon 6 on villages. The dakaits were Kurkars, Mals, Gonds, Nihals, Hindus, Muhammandans, Banjaras, Rohillas and Beldars by caste, and were armed with sharp edged stones, swords, sticks, axes, ... in one case, they set fire in the house and the Patel threw stones at the criminals and also lighted cotton wool soaked in kerosine oil and dropped it on them. In one instance the offenders carried burning torches.
		Carried over		5,000 14 8	.....	4	37	324	122	40	62	...	...

Statement of Dakaitis reported in Native States during the year 1897.—contd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaitis were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concoered.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
		Brought forward		5,000 14 8	.....	4	37	324	122	40	62	...	...
		Basim ...	17	10,460 11 8	.....	1	8	70	67	31	29	...	...	Of the 17 cases 1 was a dakaiti committed in the jungle, 4 on travellers on the high road and 11 on villages. The dakaitis were Muhammadans, Mangs, Kunbis, Pardesis, Sonars, Disau, a Fakir, Banjaras, Mahars, Andhs, Gabilas and Rohillas by caste, and were armed with swords, sticks, guns, sling, and stones. On 3 occasions the offenders pelted stones at the complainants with slings. In 1 case they burnt the complainant on the neck with a torch to make him how his property and in the other they strangled the boys about 8 or 9 years of age.
		Buldana ...	29	13,775 14 9	.....	2	3	116	117	88	10	...	3	Three cases were committed on travellers on the high road and the remainder on villages. The dakaitis were Mahars, Mangs, Muhammadans, Kunbis, Rajputs, Pardesis, Chamars, Bhils, Gosains, Marwari, Bairagi, Banjaras, Wadras, Maharrattas, Rohillas and Gailis by caste, and were armed with guns, swords, axes, knives, slings and sticks. On three occasions they threw stones.
		Ellichpur...	12	1,368 12 9	.....	...	12	224	52	17	35	...	...	Of the 12 cases, one was a field dakaiti, 1 in the jungle, 4 on villages and the rest on travellers on the high road. The dakaitis were Nihals, Dhers, Pardhis, Kalkaris, and other Hindus by caste and were armed with stones, sticks, and swords.
		Haidarabad	1	11 8 0	.....	...	2	8	8	8	...	...	..	This dakaiti was committed on travellers on the high road. The offenders were Banjaras by caste and were armed with sticks.
		Secunderabad.	1	.....	.....	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	The dakaitis, who were armed with sticks and stones, attacked a Postal runner with the mail.
		Wun ..	14	2,390 2 8	.....	...	13	195	82	62	15	...	...	Eleven cases were perpetrated on villages and the remainder on travellers on the high road. The dakaitis were Banjaras, Kunbis, Mahars, Gonds, Khatis, Pardesis, Kalams, Muhammadans, Mahates, Pardhis &c., by caste, and were armed with swords, spears, and sticks.
		TOTAL ...	111	33,008 0 1	.....	7	75	943	443	246	151	...	3	.....
	GRAND	TOTAL ...	1152	4,77,864 7 5 Bullocks, clothes and books.	24,163 11 10 Twine, an old turban, bullocks, clothes, 1 gunny bag, 1 gun, 16 seers jawar, 1 dhoti, 2 dundis and books.	89	759	23,769	4053	1101	681	4	18	.....
		TOTAL OF 1896.	684	4,14,313 0 0 6 camels, 185 head of cattle, carts, bullocks, 8 mounds of makkhi, ornaments, sack of jawar, a British Mail Bag with its contents, a petticoats, 2 brass utensils and cash.	26,182 0 0 Silver ornaments, 2 camels, 239 head of cattle and some property.	35	531	10,317	1,957	346	159	8	3	.....

SIMLA ;

The 8th July 1898.

C. S. BAYLEY,

General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

No. II.

Statements of Dakaitis reported in the Native States during the ten years 1888 to 1897.

No.	Agency.	District or State.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	TOTAL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	RAJPUTANA ...	Jhalawar ...	10	3	3	5	4	4	2	2	2	4	...
		Mewar ...	1	4	29	38	44	33	45	26	35	39	...
		Kotah ...	2	3	12	7	8	6	6	10	20	12	...
		Tonk, (portion in Rajputana)...	11	5	5	5	1	5	1	...	...	...	...
		Shahpura ...	1	...	1	...	...	5	...	2	...	...	...
		Bundi ...	1	4	2	3	6	5	5	7	1	2	...
		Jaipur ...	9	2	7	6	12	11	10	9	12	17	...
		Alwar ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	7	10	4	...
		Karauli ...	2	...	1	6	...	2	7	1	1	1	...
		Cholpur ...	...	1	1	3	...	1	...	4	2	...	...
		Bikanir ...	8	10	7	15	21	2	3	2	9	4	...
		Marwar ...	3	26	17	21	10	15	4	14	14	15	...
		Kishangarh ...	3	...	...	3	2	2	...	2	...	...	...
		Ajmer ...	3	5	...	24	6	3	1	5	2	4	...
		Sirohi ...	4	1	3	2	8	8	2	1	...	1	...
		Patiala ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
		Bhartpur ...	...	1	5	...	...	3	3	1	7	8	...
		Loharu ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nabha ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
		Jind ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
		Partabgarh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	10	...
		Khushhalgarh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Jaisalmer ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1,012
2	CENTRAL INDIA	Indore ...	21	22	26	15	15	28	25	29	23	72	...
		Gwalior ...	107	83	109	58	80	77	53	55	120	212	...
		Bhopal ...	26	7	23	5	22	10	15	41	28	80	...
		Dewas ...	7	3	1	1	5	1	3	1	3	8	...
		Patbari ...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
		Rajgarh ...	...	...	7	...	5	4	2	2	3	...	...
		Nawab Baroda ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Narsinghgarh ...	...	2	2	...	2	...	...	...	4	3	...
		Tonk, (portion in Central India)	9	4	3	6	...	2	1	...	4	5	...
		Sailana ...	...	1	2	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...
		Jhabua ...	5	14	9	4	3	1	3	2	1	1	...
		Jaora ...	...	1	6	6	1	1	2	1	3	2	...
		Dhar ...	22	6	6	4	15	12	6	9	7	24	...
		Maksudangarh ...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Mahammadgarh ...	...	...	1	3	4	...	...	1	3	13	...
		Barwani ...	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Ratlam ...	...	3	2	1	1	...	2	2	3	3	...
		Rewa ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	7	...	1	...
		Karwai ...	...	1	4	2	...	1	1	...	...	1	...
		Jhobat ...	1	...	4	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
		Sitaman ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
		Bhopawar ...	2	2	...	2	...	2	...	...	1	1	...
		Ratanmal ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Bhaghelkhand ...	...	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...
		Alirajpur ...	2	4	4	6	5	...	2	...	1	1	...
		Bundelkhand ...	13	23	86	58	48	12	12	9	24	41	...
		Guna Agency ...	...	...	5	13	17	24	18	6	8	...	...
		Agar ...	...	1	...	2	2	1	1	1	...	...	...
		Agra Barkhera ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	...
		Bagod ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
		Khilchipur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
		Piploda ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2,353
		Nagod ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	HAIDARABAD ...	His Highness the Nizam's ter- ritory (including Berar).	165	121	206	206	210	178	150	177	321	552	2,286
		TOTAL	441	369	599	539	564	468	389	448	684	1,150	5,651
		Average	...	...	...	...	...	564.3	...	...	...	...	Average for 10 years 564.3

SINLA ;

The 8th July 1898.

C. S. BAYLEY,

General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

No. III.

Annual Statement of unreported dakaitis committed in the Native States previous to 1897 which have come to light from the statements of approvers or confessing prisoners and other sources during the year 1897.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaitis were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	RAJPUTANA.	Alwar ...	3	Rs. A. P. 1,350 0 0	Rs. A. P. ...	...	1	15	3	2	...	...	...	These road dakaitis were committed by a band of Minas, Jats, and Mewati Fakirs who were armed and on foot. In one case the dakaitis had two camels with them. On one occasion they slightly wounded a driver with a sword. These cases were brought to light by confessing prisoners.
		Jaipur ...	6	2,334 6 0	...	...	...	45	2	...	...	...	...	Four of these cases were committed on travellers on the high road and two on temples. In two instances, two of the dakaitis were mounted on horses and four on camels and in the others they were on foot. In two cases the offenders were armed with guns, swords, and sticks. On one occasion the criminals beat the complainant. Two cases were brought to light by the statement of a convict and four by departmental officers.
		Kishangarh	1	409 3 0	409 3 0	...	...	5	5	3	2	...	...	This was a road dakaiti perpetrated by a gang of dakaitis who assaulted the complainant with sticks. This case was previously reported by the Kishangarh Darbar as a highway robbery, but on enquiry by the Departmental Agency was found to be a dakaiti.
		Nabha ...	1	1,686 8 0	...	...	...	7	1	1	...	...	...	This was a road dakaiti and was brought to light by a dakaiti who was armed on two offenders were suspected to be Thakurs, Charauns, and Ahirs, by caste.
		Total ...	11	5,780 1 0	409 3 0	...	1	72	11	6	2	...	...
2	CENTRAL INDIA.	Indore ...	1	59 8 0	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	This was a house dakaiti committed by offenders armed with bows and arrows. They were on foot.
		Gwalior Agency.	7	1,809 10 6	317 15 6	...	2	95	35	7	...	...	...	Four were cases of cattle-lifting and three were committed on villages by a band of Mirdhas, Gujars and Thakurs, armed with guns, swords, and sticks. They were on foot.
		Raghu-garh	2	670 0 0	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	These were cases of cattle lifting. The dakaitis were armed with swords, <i>lokangis</i> , and sticks. They were on foot. These dakaitis were brought to light by a Departmental Inspector.
		Dhar-naoda	4	265 7 0	95 7 0	...	1	28	21	...	...	...	...	Three were road dakaitis perpetrated on travellers and one was a case of cattle-lifting. The offenders were armed with swords and sticks and were on foot. On one occasion resistance was offered.
		Bhopal ...	9	5,528 3 0	520 10 0	...	2	145	21	...	...	...	...	Of these cases one was committed on travellers on the high road, one on cattle and the remainder on villages. The dakaitis were Ahirs, Kachis, Kolis, Gonds, and Banjaras by caste and were armed with guns, swords and sticks. They were on foot. In two instances resistance was offered. Five of the cases were reported by a Departmental officer.
		Muzaffar Agency.	1	681 12 0	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	The dakaitis, who were armed with bows and arrows, attacked the house of a Brahman. They were on foot.
		Carried over	...	9,014 8 6	934 0 6	...	5	304	77	7	...	...	...

Annual Statement of unreported dakaits committed in the Native States previous to 1897 which have come to light from the statement of the approvers or confessing prisoners and other sources during the year 1897—contd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaits were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
CENTRAL INDIA—contd.														
HAIDARABAD.	Bundelkhand Agency.	Brought forward.	...	Rs. A. P. 9,014 8 6	Rs. A. P. 934 0 6	...	5	304	77	7	...	...	...	These village dakaits were committed by criminals armed with guns, sticks, swords, clubs, and axes. They were on foot.
		Orcha	2	291 0 0	5 0 0	...	...	27	14	...	...	...	...	These village dakaits were committed by criminals armed with guns, sticks, swords, clubs, and axes. They were on foot.
		Panna	3	89 12 3	50 10 9	...	3	20	18	...	...	...	...	Two cases were perpetrated on villages and one on a traveller on the high road. The dakaits were armed with clubs and were on foot.
		Char-khari.	1	1,277 2 9	184 9 9	...	3	31	23	...	10	...	5	This house case was committed by dakaits who were on foot, armed with guns, swords, hatchets, and clubs.
		Bhagelkhand (Rewa).	1	...	...	...	1	17	15	11	...	...	1	The dakaits, who were armed with sticks and axes, attacked the house of an Ahir. They were on foot.
		Total	31	10,672 7 6	1,174 5 0	...	12	389	147	18	10	...	6	
	Atraf-i-Balda	Atraf-i-Balda	2	2,498 4 0	...	...	2	30	...	...	...	...	...	Both cases were committed upon villages by offenders who appeared to be Mussulmans, Hindus, and Lambars. In one instance, the dakaits were armed with guns, axes, &c., and burnt the complainant with torches.
		Aurangabad	23	8,595 5 0	898 11 9	...	10	489	207	132	35	...	...	One of these village cases was committed upon seven persons sleeping at a well. The dakaits were Kunbis, Banjaras, Mussulmans, Bhils, Maangs, Brahmans, Kolis, and Hindus by caste, and were armed with guns, swords, axes, crowbars, slings, sticks, and bows and arrows. In two cases they were on foot and had torches. Two cases were brought to light by the Assistant General Superintendent and one by a Deputy Inspector of the Department.
		Bedar	1	195 8 0	42 8 6	...	1	15	3	...	...	...	...	This house dakaity was committed by offenders who appeared to be Mussulmans and Maharrattas. They were armed with swords, guns and sticks, and were on foot.
		Bir	7	596 4 0	1 12 0	1	3	95	13	...	...	...	...	All of these cases were committed upon villages. The dakaits were Maharrattas, Dhers, Maangs, Lambaras, Dhungars, Maltanis and Kalkaris and were armed with guns, swords, sticks bound with iron, and spears. Three cases were reported by the Assistant General Superintendent and one by an Inspector of the Department.
		Elgandal	7	1,024 5 6	263 0 0	...	2	114	91	19	15	...	...	Six cases were committed upon villages and one on a traveller on the high road. The criminals were Sikhs, Mussulmans, and Hindus by caste, and were armed with guns and sticks. In two, cases they beat the complainants.
		Gulburga	8	1,759 10 6	372 13 11	...	12	144	74	6	7	...	1	Of these cases, one was committed in a field and the rest in villages. The dakaits were Dhers, Kolis, Hindus, Telungas, Mussulmans and Dhungars by caste and were armed with guns, swords, sticks, axes, and slings. They were on foot in six cases. One of these cases was reported by a Departmental officer.
		Indur	4	472 2 0	...	...	...	35	15	...	...	...	...	These village dakaits were perpetrated by hands of Lambaras, Maharrattas, Hindus, and Mussulmans, armed with guns, swords, sticks, and axes. They were on foot on two occasions. One of these cases was brought to light by the statement of a convict.
		Liingsagar...	2	2,332 12 0	...	...	2	60	19	5	14	...	...	The dakaits who were Hindus, armed with guns, axes, and sticks committed these cases upon a village and upon travellers on the high road.
		Mahbubnagar.	5	1,244 11 6	187 7 6	...	...	34	26	15	...	...	...	These were village dakaits committed by Telungas, Lambaras, Hindus and Mussulmans. In one case, they were armed with guns.
		Carried over	...	18,718 14 6	1,766 5 8	1	32	1,016	448	177	71	...	1	

Annual Statement of unreported dakaitis committed in the Native States previous to 1897 which have come to light from the statement of the approvers or confessing prisoners and other sources during the year 1897—concl'd.

Number.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF DAKAITS.						Remarks showing of what caste the dakaitis were or appeared to be, how armed, whether mounted or on foot, &c.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	Killed.	Wounded.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	Died.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.									
		Brought forward.	...	18,718 14 6	1,766 5 8	1	32	1,016	448	177	71	...	1	
		Meduck ...	7	9,503 2 0	601 1 10	1	4	93	21	11	10	...	...	All were village cases committed by dakaitis who were Lambaras, Musulmans, Telangas and Hindus by caste. They were armed with guns, swords, and sticks and were on foot. Six of these cases were reported by the Assistant General Superintendent.
		Jagir ...	7	593 4 0	396 6 9	...	4	136	12	...	...	...	...	These dakaitis were committed upon villages. The offenders were Rohillas, Dherw, Mangs, and Mahrattas by caste and were armed with guns, swords, axes, and sticks. All were on foot. On one occasion the dakaitis spoke Hindi and muffled up their faces. These cases were reported by the Assistans General Superintendent.
		Nandair ...	5	599 10 3	208 11 9	...	4	47	24	19	1	...	...	Three cases were perpetrated upon villages and one on travellers on the high road. The criminals were Hindus, Musulmans, Lambaras, Mahrattas, Kaikaris and Dherw and were armed with guns, swords, &c. On three occasions they muffled up their faces and were on foot. One of these cases was reported by a Departmental Inspector.
		Naldrug ...	8	437 7 4	56 10 0	...	6	176	35	...	5	...	...	One dakaiti was committed on a traveller in a village and the remainder on villages. The dakaitis were Dherw, Mangs, Mahrattas and Musulmans and were armed with guns, swords, axes, sticks, stones and slings. In four cases they were on foot.
		Parbhani ...	3	7,261 4 0	...	...	1	51	10	10	...	...	...	The dakaitis who were Dherw, Mangs, Musulmans, Pardis and Dhangars committed these cases upon villages. They were armed with swords, guns and sticks. In two cases the offenders spoke like Mahrattas and Banjaras and muffled up their faces. On one occasion they applied burning torches to the persons of the complainant's wife and also set fire to the house. One of these cases was reported by a prisoner.
		Warangal ...	9	2,003 13 6	390 13 6	...	2	206	132	44	47	...	...	Six dakaitis were committed upon villages, two on travellers on the high road and one on cattle when grazing in the jungles. The criminals were Malwars, Dherw, Christians, Hindus, and Kolis and were armed with guns, swords and sticks. In two instances they fired off their guns.
		Raichur ...	9	10,915 3 4	146 9 0	1	2	177	99	65	15	...	...	The dakaitis were armed with guns, swords, sticks and stones and attacked villages in five cases and travellers on the high road in the remainder. They were Kaikaris, Banjaras, Bedars and Lambaras by caste. All of these cases were reported by the Assistant General Superintendent.
		Total ...	107	50,032 10 11	3,566 10 6	3	551	902	781	326	149	...	1	
		Grand total	149	66,485 0 0	5,150 0 0	3	68	2,373	939	350	161	...	7	
		Total of 1896.	121	46,309 0 0 Clothes, a gun and buffaloes.	5,678 0 0	4	55	1,355	259	40	87	...	...

C. S. BAYLEY,

SIMLA;

The 8th July 1898.

General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

Cases of Thagi by the administration of poison or deleterious drugs reported during the year 1897.

No.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF OFFENDERS.					Remarks showing whether the offenders appeared to be professional poisoners and the manner in which the poison was administered, etc.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	To whom poison was administered.	Who died from the effect of poisoning.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1	Rajputana	Alwar	1	Rs. A. P. 30 0 0	...	2	1	4	...	...	...	...	In this case dhatura mixed in <i>dal</i> was given to 2 persons of whom 1 died in hospital from the effects of the poison.
		Jaipur	1	61 0 0	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	Two travellers gave <i>churma</i> mixed with some intoxicating drugs to a person rendering him insensible.
		Kishangarh	1	63 0 0	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	Some intoxicating drug was given to a Muhammadan in <i>malida</i> and <i>dal</i> . While insensible he was robbed of his property. The accused appeared to be a professional poisoner and a reward has been offered for his arrest.
		Jodhpur	1	91 0 0	...	1	...	2	1	...	1	...	A Jat was drugged with some intoxicant which was mixed in <i>churma</i> . He became insensible.
2	Central India	Total	4	245 0 0	...	5	1	9	1	...	1	...	In these cases poison was administered in pills, sweetmeats (<i>kalakand</i>) and tobacco. In one instance the offender appeared to be a Musliman. Six of these cases were reported by a Departmental Inspector.
		Bhopal	8	100 6 0	0 4 6	19	...	11	7	...	...	...	Poison, the nature of which is not known, was administered in <i>dal</i> and <i>chapatia</i> . A reward of Rs. 500 has been offered.
		Raichur	1	325 0 0	...	4	...	1	1	1	...	...	In this case poison was administered with sugar.
		Aurangabad	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	...	Poisoners beat the complainant's husband and brother-in-law and mixed up something in gur which they gave them to eat and from the effect of which they died.
3	Madharabad	Mahabubnagar	1	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
		Total	3	325 0 0	...	4	3	5	3	1	...	...
		GRAND TOTAL	15	670 0 0	...	28	4	25	11	1	1	...	
		TOTAL OF 1896	6	880 0 0	353 12 0	9	1	10	2	2	...	...

SMILA;

The 8th July 1898.

C. S. BAYLEY,
General-Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

No. IV-(a).

Cases of Thagi by the administration of poison on deleterious drugs committed previous to 1897, but reported during the year 1897.

No.	Agency.	District or State.	Number of cases.	AMOUNT OF PROPERTY.		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DISPOSAL OF OFFENDERS.					Remarks showing whether the offenders appeared to be professional poisoners and the manner in which the poison was administered.
				Plundered.	Recovered.	To whom poison was administered.	Who died from the effects of poisoning.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Released.	Escaped.	
1	Rajputana	Jaipur	1	Rs. A. P. 39 0 0	Rs. A. P. ..	2	..	3	..	..	..	3	Lachmi Narain accompanied by a young woman and a lad of about 14 and 15 put up for seven days at the house of one Bhairao and while there administered some drug mixed in <i>malida</i> to Bhairao and his wife. Both became insensible and were robbed of silver ornaments. The case is being investigated.

SIMLA;

The 8th July 1898.

C. S. BAYLEY,
General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE

Yearly Return of Criminal tribes settled in Rajputana for the year ending on the 31st December 1897.

Residency, Agency, District.	State, Pargana or town where Criminal tribes are settled.	Present on the 1st January 1897.		1897.		Total of columns 3, 4 and 5.	1897.				Total of columns 7, 8, 9 and 10.	Number present on 31st Decem- ber 1897.	Number of women.	Number of boys.	Unmarried boys and girls re- lated to the heads of families.	QUANTITY OF LAND POSSESSED BY CRIMINAL TRIBES.			REMARKS.
		Newly registered.	Abandoned or released prisoners returned.	Died.	Struck off the Register.		Abandoned.	Imprisoned.	Bigas.	Diwans.						Diwans.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
WESTERN STATES.	Marwar ...	5,806	105	112	6,113	49	2	101	67	219	5,894	5,536	5,219	3,914	1,60,794	9	9		* Of these 46 are Minas and the rest Bhils.
	Sirohi ...	124	9	...	* 133	...	...	...	1	1	132	108	148	231	1,331	18	...	
	Bikaner ...	810	6	23	839	12	...	18	25	55	784	796	771	645	29,384	8	10		
HABASHI AND TONE.	Nimbahera (Tonk) ...	47	...	...	47	1	...	2	1	4	43	46	46	65	528	18	...	
	Shahpura ...	54	...	...	54	2	...	...	1	3	51	44	37	18	586	9	11	
MERWAR	Mewar ...	397	4	3	404	6	...	9	3	18	386	371	320	339	4,601	6	15		
	Banswara ...	43	...	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	43	51	57	34	47	14	15	
EASTERN STATES.	Parbhaghar ...	56	...	...	56	1	...	...	...	1	55	58	56	56	2,294	11	...	
	Dholpur ...	8	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	9	8	7	34	5	...	
ALWAR	Kanuli ...	26	1	...	27	1	...	...	...	1	26	22	22	15	132	2	...	
	Dhartpur ...	102	28	...	130	1	...	3	...	4	126	95	68	63	110	...	...
JAIPUR	Alwar ...	376	1	3	380	7	...	11	4	22	358	258	326	434	2,731	18	...		
	Jaipur ...	69	...	...	69	...	...	...	7	7	62	64	59	90	8,046	...	...
KOTAH	Kishangharh ...	115	4	...	119	1	...	2	4	7	112	105	64	55	2,746	5	...		
	Kotah ...	9	3	...	12	...	...	42	...	2	10	13	17	11	222	16	...	
AJMER-MERWARA	Ajmer ...	52	...	...	52	3	...	...	4	7	45	44	45	24	242	5	...	
	TOTAL	8,094	251	141	8,486	84	2	148	118	951	8,135	7,620	7,258	5,901	2,08,898	7	...		

† The quantity of land held
by 107 men (Badaks) is
not shown in the Annual
Return received from this
State.

‡ One of these is not shown
in the Return for 1896.

The returns received from the Western Rajputana States are prepared for the year ending on the 31st July 1897.

SIMLA;

The 8th July 1898.

C. S. BAYLEY,
General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

Yearly Return of Criminal Tribes settled in Central India for the year ending on the 31st of December 1897.

Residency or Agency.	1.	2.	1897.				Total of columns 3, 4 and 5.	1897.				Total of columns 7, 8, 9 and 10.	Number present on 31st December 1897.	Number of women.	Number of boys.	Unmarried boys and girls related to the heads of families.	QUANTITY OF LAND POSSESSED BY CRIMINAL TRIBES.			Remarks.
			Newly registered.	Absconded or released prisoners returned.	Died.	Struck off the registers.		Absconded.	Imprisoned.	Bigar.	Blawas.						Biswanis.			
MALWA.	Gwalior	241	...	3	244	15	13	26	1	60	184	273	255	267	2,166	15	* This Moghia is a labourer and holds no land. † 3 of these not shown in the previous Return.
	Indore ...	...	248	5	10	263	7	...	3	3	13	250	268	263	171	4,246	16	15	...
	Sallana ...	...	35	...	...	35	1	...	...	2	3	32	40	29	23	1,078	11	...	...
	Ratlam ...	...	138	8	3	149	6	...	9	2	17	132	114	111	78	3,106	...	...	...
	Sitamaru ...	...	17	...	...	17	...	...	2	...	2	15	13	15	25	274	19	...	...
	Piploda ...	...	42	...	...	42	5	...	...	...	5	37	44	39	21	796	17	5	...
	Mandesar ...	...	200	14	6	220	9	...	6	3	18	202	231	158	106	3,646	19	12	...
	Manasa ...	...	17	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	17	22	19	13	285	...	...	...
	Bhanpura ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1*	1	1	3	...	...	...	...
	Jaora ...	...	129	5	2	136	3	...	1	...	4	132	151	113	64	2,426	19	6	...
Nimnch ...	...	149	5	2	156	4	...	6†	3	13	143	151	125	108	2,330	6	...	...
		Carried over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* This Meghin is a labourer and holds no land.

† 3 of these not shown in the previous Return.

Yearly Return of Criminal Tribes settled in Central India for the year ending on the 31st of December 1897.

Residency or Agency.	State, Pargana or town where criminal tribes are settled.	Present on the 1st January 1897.	1897.		Total of columns 3, 4 and 5.	1897.				Total of columns 7, 8, 9 and 10.	Number present on 31st December 1897.	Number of women.	Number of boys.	Unmarried boys and girls related to the heads of families.	QUANTITY OF LAND POSSESSED BY CRIMINAL TRIBES.			REMARKS.
			Newly registered.	Abandoned or released prisoners returned.		Died.	Struck off the Register.	Abandoned.	Imprisoned.						Digs.	Diswas.	Diswasia.	
1	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Brought forward	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
	<i>Malwa Agency—contd.</i>																	
	Sonkach (Shahjahanpur)	62	1	1	64	5	...	2	1	8	56	20	14	8	401	10	...	* 3 of these not shown in the previous return.
	Antri	7	1	...	8	...	...	2	1	3	5	13	11	4	182	17	...	† Not shown in the Annual Return for 1896.
	Alot (Dewas Senior Branch)	10	2	...	12	...	1	...	2	3	9	14	16	36	249	16	...	‡ Not given in the Annual Return for 1896.
	Dewas (Junior Branch)	5	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	3	8	110	...	...	§ One of these is employed in the Hoshangabad Police as an Informant.
	Gargochin	13	4*	1	18	...	1†	1	...	2	16	11	12	20	202	5	...	
	Karanch Makarum	84	2†	...	36	...	1	7	...	8	28	46	30	17	758	9	5	
	Gird Ujjain	171	3	3	177	12	2	11	4	29	148	209	161	125	4,361	15	18	
	Neori	37	3	...	40	3	...	5	1	9	31§	64	49	87	520	13	...	

MALWA—contd.

BHOOPALWAR.		BHOOPAL.														Total	
		81	4	4	89	3	...	2	...	6	84	79	68	39	1,479	16	...
Dhar Sato	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bakhigarh	...	70	1	0	77	3	...	1	1	5	72	69	47	35	1,551	14	...
Kachi Baroda	...	72	3	...	75	3	...	2	...	4	71	69	64	81	771	...	...
Multhan	...	38	...	5	43	1	...	1	2	4	39	48	29	44	854	3	...
Bhopal	...	119	36	10	165	3	...	33	1	37	124	206	147	107	4,497	...	...
Rajgarh	...	101	2	6	111	8	...	0	4	29	91	132	105	71	2,293	...	...
Khilebipar	...	47	5	11	63	3	...	12	4	19	44	102	54	92	1,261	10	...
Karwai ...	...	21	7	4	35	1	...	14	...	15	29	34	24	16	356	9	...
Sutalia ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	7	11	26	1	...
Sironj (Tonk)	...	17	2	3	21	...	...	...	...	...	21	21	21	29	233	13	...
Narsinghgarh	...	87	2	3	92	6	...	3	1	9	63	89	51	41	1,919	10	...
Pithari	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	11	1	3	82	...	...
Bagli ...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2*	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maksudangarh	...	25	4	...	29	...	...	11	...	11	18	41	26	32	330	7	...
Total	...	2,242	119	83	2,414	99	23	169	36	327	2,117	2,652	2,255	1,896	92,653	7	6

SIMLA;

The 8th July 1898.

C. S. BARRY,

General Superintendent, Thiagi and Dakshiti Department.

APPENDIX A.

No. 1853-G., dated Abu, the 20th May 1898.

From—A. H. T. MARTINDALE, Esq., Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of

- (1) No. 514-G., dated 10th February 1898, from the Political Agent, Eastern Rajputana States.
- (2) No. 142-G., dated 15th February, 1898, from the Political Agent, Jhalawar.
- (3) No. 96-G., dated 17th February 1898, from the Political Agent, Haraoth and Tonk.
- (4) No. 48 T. & D., dated 19th February 1898, from the Resident at Jaipur.
- (5) No. 661, dated 21st February 1898, from the Political Agent, Alwar.
- (6) Nos. 102-G. and 110-G., dated 28th February 1898 and 4th March 1898, from the Resident, Mewar.
- (7) No. 521, dated 28th February 1898, from the Resident, Bikanir.
- (8) No. 258-G., dated 4th March 1898, from the Political Agent, Kotah.
- (9) No. 298-T. & D., dated 9th April 1898, from the Resident, Western Rajputana States.

India, the reports cited in the margin, giving statistics of organized crime in the several Native States of Rajputana during the year 1897, and describing the progress of the measures undertaken for the settlement of the Criminal Tribes in the Province, and the operations of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department in those States in which its officers were employed during the year.

2. As shown in the comparative statement in the margin the total number of dakaities reported as having occurred in Rajputana in the year under review is 117 as compared with 102 during the year 1896 and 89 in 1895. The increase in 1897 over 1896 is chiefly due to a rise in the number of cases reported in the larger States and in Partabgarh, and is probably attributable rather to improvement in reporting cases directly they occur than to any real access of crime.

3. The total value of property plundered is estimated at Rs. 55,548-10 as against Rs. 58,222-8 in the previous year. One hundred and eight camels and 41 head of cattle were lifted in 1897. In 1896 the figures were 6 camels and 627 head of cattle. In addition to 106 camels and 11 cattle, property to the value of Rs. 2,103-9-3 was recovered. The value of the articles

recovered in 1896 was estimated at Rs. 1,534-11-3, and 4 camels and 615 head of stolen cattle were restored to their owners in the same year.

4. The estimate that 1,400 to 1,500 persons were engaged in this form of crime can be nothing more than conjecture. 197 persons were arrested and 72 convicted, the corresponding figures for the year 1896 being 107 and 37 respectively.

5. Briefly reviewing the returns of the several States in more detail, it will be seen that in Bhartpur 8 dakaitis were reported by the Darbar as having occurred during the year, none of them being of a specially serious nature. Of the 88 dakaitis said to have been concerned, 28 were arrested and 8 convicted. Nine were released, while the remaining 11 were awaiting trial at the end of the year.

State.				1897.	1896.	1895.
Marrwar	...	...	...	15	13	1
Bhartpur	...	...	...	8	4	1
Dholpur	...	...	...	...	2	2
Karnali	...	...	...	1	1	1
Jhalawar	...	...	...	4	2	...
Tonk	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bundi	...	...	...	2	1	7
Shahpura	...	...	...	...	...	2
Jaipur	...	...	...	17	11	9
Kishangarh	...	...	...	1	...	2
Alwar	...	...	...	4	6	4
Mewar	...	...	...	39	35	29
Partabgarh	...	...	...	10	...	...
Bikanir	...	...	...	3	8	2
Kotah	...	...	...	12	18	11
Sirohi	...	...	...	1	...	1
Jaialmer	...	...	...	...	1	...
Total	...	...	...	117	102	89

6. In Karauli, as in 1896, only one case of dakaiti was reported. The value of property plundered was estimated at Rs. 116-15-0.

7. In Dholpur no case of dakaiti was reported. A large number of the Gujars who reside on the Dholpore bank of the Chambal river, and of whom mention was made in last year's report, have been arrested and sent up for trial for complicity in cases of dakaiti in other States. The villages of this tract, locally known as the Dhang, have been brought under surveillance. The arrangements carried out by the Darbar and by Mr. Clogstoun, Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department, against this haunt of marauders have been markedly successful, and there is reason to hope that the adjacent States in which their operations were notoriously organized and carried on will, in future, be undisturbed by them.

It is said that there are no Criminal Tribes in the Eastern States Agency; but the Kanjars in the Bhartpur State have lately been brought under the Criminal Tribes rules and allowed to settle down temporarily in the Bayana Pargana.

8. *Jhalawar*.—Four cases of dakaiti were committed in this State. It is estimated that the number of dakaitis concerned in their perpetration was between 130 and 140. One dakait was killed and 10 were arrested. Of the latter 1 died and 9 were convicted. The total estimated value of the property plundered amounted to Rs. 5,733-12-6, of which property to the value of only Rs. 121-0-3 was recovered.

With regard to the Criminal Tribes, the Political Agent reports that "it was decided during the year that Kanjars, Sansias and Moghias were to be considered as Criminal Tribes within the meaning of the rules. As there are many Moghias in the State, who are believed to be harmless and who cannot rightly be classed as criminal, enquiries are being instituted to ascertain how each member of this tribe earns his livelihood. Lists of all Sansias and Kanjars are being prepared and steps are being taken to settle them down in accordance with the rules."

9. *Haraoti and Tonk*.—The States in this Agency appear to be comparatively free from serious crime. Only two cases of dakaiti were reported during the year in the Bundi State. The three other cases mentioned by the Political Agent, Haraoti and Tonk, occurred in the outlying parganas of Tonk, which are under the Central India Agency.

No cases appear to have occurred in Tonk or Shahpura.

No measures for the reclamation of members of the Criminal Tribes were undertaken in Bundi. But this important subject received attention in the other two States of the Agency, and useful work was done in settling them down as cultivators.

Effect has recently been given to Mr. Tucker's suggestion that the Courts of Vakils should be allowed to decide cases of doubt as to which of two or more States would be considered as responsible for a member of a Criminal Tribe whose domicile is in question. His recommendation that a settlement should be formed in Ajmer-Merwara has frequently been mooted before, but there are difficulties attending its acceptance. As the Criminal Tribes gradually become settled, the remaining point to which he alludes, *viz.*, the practice of passing on members, will lose importance.

10. *Jaipur*.—During the year 1897, three cases of dakaiti were reported from Jaipur and one from Kishangarh. Three cases of poisoning for plunder occurred—two in Jaipur and one in Kishangarh. Besides these cases 10 dakaities were brought to light by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, six having taken place in previous years, while four were committed in Jaipur during the year under review. As noticed in last year's report, the percentage of arrests and convictions in Jaipur on account of these crimes is but small. In connection with the 17 cases in Jaipur, only 15 arrests were made, although the number of dakaitis concerned was estimated at about 170. Of the men arrested 3 were convicted, 2 were released, and the remaining 13 appear to have been awaiting their trial at the close of the year. The amount of property plundered in Jaipur was valued at Rs. 15,492-14-6, and of this large amount articles valued at only Rs. 175 are said to have been recovered.

(about £3) for each case; while in 10 cases the value was not reported at all, and may therefore be assumed to be trifling. These figures (55) account for almost one-half of all the cases (117) in the whole Province for the year. There is no doubt a considerable amount of highway robbery and cattle-lifting in Rajputana, but very little dakaiti in the stricter sense of the term. The value again of the property taken looms large in the returns. But compared with the population and extent of the country it is small, being little in excess of £3,000 (of which part was recovered) for the entire Province; and, this apart, it will be remembered that the owners invariably exaggerate the value of their trinkets or their apparel, while five cases alone account for nearly one-half of the property stolen in the year by the so-called dakaitis. There was not a single case of mail robbery during the year, a remarkable fact, considering the wild nature of many parts of the country which the runners, often unescorted, traverse by day and night.

18. Turning to the two remaining branches of this subject there is no question that, despite unfavourable conditions, much useful work has been done

* Criminal Tribes Departmental work.

in the past year in registering the names of persons belonging to the Criminal Tribes, in settling them down to peaceful occupations, and in checking their periodical thieving expeditions. If these operations are continued systematically and patiently, they must exercise a powerful influence in reducing crime. My personal observations have been limited this year to the Western States of Rajputana. But I can testify by actual inspection during cold-weather tours in those States to the practical measures which are being carried out, especially in Marwar, for giving members of the Criminal Tribes allotments of land on secure tenures, and providing them with cattle and seed grain. The printed reports for 1896-1897 enclosed indicates the lines on which this work is being conducted in Jodhpore, and the interest displayed by the Darbar in its success. The reports of the Political Officers concerned show that similar arrangements are not being neglected in Bikanir, Tonk, Shahpura, Alwar and other States.

19. The operations of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department in those States where its officers were employed during the year have been more particularly reviewed in the annual return lately forwarded to the General Superintendent. They were specially successful in Jaipur in connection with the troublesome Mina tribesmen; and in Dholpur, where it is hoped that a permanent check has been placed upon the bands of marauding Gujars who, for many years past, have infested the ravines on the left bank of the Chambal river.

No. 514-G., dated Bhartpur, the 10th February 1898.

From—MAJOR C. HERBERT, Political Agent, Eastern States, Rajputana,

To—The First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in section 51 of the Thagi and Dakaiti Manual, I have the honour to submit the annual report of the working of the Department in the Eastern Rajputana States Agency during the year ending 31st December 1897.

2. (1) No cases of poisoning for plunder have been reported. Bhartpur reported 8 cases of dakaiti for plunder, Karauli one and Dholpur none.

A statement showing the description of the cases of dakaiti is herewith submitted in duplicate.

(2) No previously unreported cases of dakaiti were brought to notice by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

(3) The number of dakaitis convicted by the Darbars were in Bhartpur eight, but none in Karauli and Dholpur.

(4) The number of persons charged with dakaiti and acquitted by the Darbar were in Bhartpur 9 and in Kerowli.

(5) There are no Criminal Tribes in the States of Bhartpur, Karauli and Dholpur, but in the former State, Kanjars have lately been reckoned as members of Criminal Tribes and allowed to settle down temporarily in the Bayana Pargana.

(6) Anthropometry has not been introduced in any of the three States according to the orders to the Government of India, but it is proposed to introduce experimentally the system of Finger impressions in Bhartpur; and the materials for the same are being obtained by Surgeon-Captain Drake-Brockman, who supervises the jail.

(7) Fifteen proclaimed offenders were arrested in the Bhartpur State and surrendered to the British Courts.

(8) The officials of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department attached to this Agency have done their work well throughout the year, particularly Inspector Abdu-s-Salam, who has done excellent work in the Dholpur State.

The operations against the Gujar dakaitis of Dholpur territory will form the subject of a separate report.

(9) No frontier difficulties with regard to crime have arisen in this Agency with the neighbouring Native States or British districts during the year.

(10) I have no suggestions to offer for improving the working of the Department, as I have not been long in this Agency.

No. 96-G., dated Camp *viâ* Deoli, the 17th February 1898.

From—A. TUCKER, Esq., Political Agent, Haraoti and Tonk.

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana.

I have the honour to forward the accompanying report for the year 1897 prescribed in rule 51 of the Rules for the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

(1) The following cases of dakaiti were reported as having occurred in 1897 by the Tonk and Bundi Darbars and by the Shahpura Chiefship :—

Date.	State.	Locality.	Description.
January 25th...	Bundi ...	The village of Gudha	The houses of three sahukars were reported to have been entered and plundered by a large number of men. The villagers did not resist them. The Bundi Police arrested two Bundi and three Mewar subjects in connection with this case, but the accused were discharged by the Court of Vakils at Deoli, where the case was sent for trial.
March 20th ...	Tonk ...	The village of Bari in the Chabra Pargana of Central India.	Two Banjaras and a Chamar camping in the village had property worth Rs. 117 taken from them by a gang of men reported to number 15, who are said to have appeared to be Kanjars. No arrests have been reported. One person was killed and five reported injured. No arrests have been reported. The work on the Chabra section of the Guna-Bara Railway was at this time in progress, and there was a large foreign population in the Pargana.

Date.	State.	Locality.	Description.
April 27th ...	Tonk ...	The village of Dilod in the Chabra Pargana.	Three persons grazing cattle were attacked by a gang of 10 or 12 persons, who drove off the cattle numbering 100 head. No arrests have been reported. One person was killed and one reported injured. The cattle were driven off toward a Gwalior village.
May 8th ...	Tonk ...	The village of Kuza in the Sironj Pargana.	This case has been under trial in the Central India Agency, with the result that a Tonk thanadar has been sentenced to transportation for life for the murder of a Karwai subject, who appears to have been killed by a pursuing party from Tonk.
June 10th ...	Bundi ...	The village of Notara	A Bania's house was plundered by a body of men said to have numbered 20 or 25. In this case also the Bundi Police arrested certain Bundi and Mewar subjects who were placed on trial before and discharged by the Vakils Court at Deoli.

Information of no cases of poisoning for plunder was received. The general result of five reported cases in a year, in which scarcity and famine prevailed, appears to me satisfactory. The Tonk Darbar is taking steps to improve its Police in the outlying parganas.

(2) I have nothing to report under this head.

(3) I have nothing to report under this head.

(4) In the Gudha and Notara cases reported from Bundi and described under (1) *supra* 5 persons were placed on trial before the Court of Vakils at Deoli and there discharged. The Bundi State is understood to have filed appeals in these two cases in the Upper Court of Vakils.

(5) The Bundi State has so far not reported any members of proclaimed Criminal Tribes as resident in or found in Bundi. In the Rajputana Parganas of Tonk the number of settled Moghias is 45; the total number of the Moghia community is 166, which includes the women and children. Nimbahera contains as many as 43 of the settled Moghias. I have not able to visit this outlying pargana in the course of the year. The Nimbahera Mogia settlements are reported to be in a satisfactory condition, and the conduct of the Moghias was good in a year of scarcity. The settled Moghias had 543 bigas of cultivated land and 73 heads of cattle. They receive from the State Rs. 227 as takavi in the year: a number of them draw takavi from Bohras.

In Shahpura settled Moghias number 55. They hold 409 bighas of land and have 73 heads of cattle. Arrangements are under consideration for collecting the Moghias from several jagir villages, where they now are, and settling them in one khalsa village. The Chiefships and jagirdars concerned are endeavouring to effect this desirable arrangement by agreement. I have personally inspected the two chief Moghia settlements in Shahpura and found the Moghias in a satisfactory condition. The returns for the year have been duly submitted by the three Motamids and despatched to the General Superintendent at Simla as early as has been practicable.

(6) I have nothing to report under this head.

(7) A Multani woman arrested in Shahpura and believed to belong to a gang of Multanis of criminal habits in Mewar was made over to the Mewar authorities.

(8) No departmental subordinates were attached to this Agency in the year.

(9) In the Gudha and Notara cases noticed *supra* the Bundi authorities have been censured for making arrests in Mewar and removing their prisoners into Bundi. In the Sironj Pargana of Tonk a difficulty has arisen regarding extradition under the Central India Extradition Rules between Sironj and the Maksudangarh Chiefship.

(10) I venture to repeat the suggestion, which I made in my last year's report, that the Courts of Vakils might be used for deciding disputed cases of liability for the settlement of members of Criminal Tribes. It seems to me very desirable and important that States in the same part of the country should proclaim the same tribes; I have already had several petty difficulties owing to the present want of uniformity. I have separately recommended, for reasons given, that a settlement for Sansias and Kanjars under the Criminal Tribes Settlement Act should be established in Ajmer, to which members of these tribes, which are proclaimed in this Agency, might be sent. I have also separately submitted that the practice of passing on members of these tribes, which is allowed in Ajmer, is contrary to the orders of the Government of India which are acted on in adjacent State territory, and have suggested that, unless Ajmer takes its comparatively numerous Sansias and Kanjars in hand they should be struck off the lists of proclaimed tribes in this Agency.

(Sd.) A. TUCKER,

CAMP *viâ* DEOLI;

Political Agent in Harauti and Tonk.

The 17th February 1898.

No. 48-T. D., dated Jaipur, the 19th February 1898.

From—G. R. IRWIN, Esq., C. S., Resident at Jaipur,

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana.

I have the honour to submit, herewith, in duplicate, the report, required by rule 51 of the Thagi and Dakaiti Manual of the working of the Departmental Agency at Jaipur for the year ending on the 31st December 1897.

2. The following officers held charge of this Departmental Agency during the year, *viz.* :—

Colonel V. E. Law from 31st January 1897 to 31st March 1897.

Surgeon-Major P. D. Paulk from 31st March 1897 to 8th April 1897.

Mr. G. R. Irwin from 9th April 1897 to 31st December 1897.

3. The establishment here stood as follows on the 1st January 1897, *viz.* :—

Inspector ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deputy Inspector ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dafadars ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Najibs ...	...	...	...	...	...	5

and this would have been the strength on 31st December 1897, but for the promotion of one of the two Dafadars mentioned above to a Deputy Inspectorship, the establishment on the 31st December 1897 was, therefore, as under, *viz.* :—

Inspector ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deputy Inspectors ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dafadar ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Najibs ...	...	...	...	...	...	5

4. Return No. I attached shows the number and description of the cases of dakaiti and poisoning for plunder recorded from information received through the Darbars, *viz.*, 16 and 3 respectively.

5. The other return No. I shows 10 cases of dakaity and none of poisoning for plunder brought to notice by the subordinates of the Department.

6. Return No. II attached shows that there have been no cases in which conviction against the dakaits or poisoners were obtained through the instrumentality of the Thagi and Dakaity Department.

7. The return in question also shows that no persons charged with dakaity or poisoning for plunder were acquitted by the Darbars, the Political Officer, or the Head of the Administration respectively.

8. In connection with the work of settling Criminal Tribes, in all five Baories, were settled down in 1897 in Relanta in Kishangarh, viz. :—

- (1) Kusla, son of Kana, Baori.
- (2) Bhavana, son of Chatra, Baori.
- (3) Baharmala, son of Kusla, Baori
- (4) Moti, son of Khoma, Baori.
- (5) Binja, son of Bakhroo, Baori.

The Resident at Jaipur could not make any personal enquiries into the subject of settling Criminal Tribes in the course of his tour in 1897, as the settlements were not within easy distance of the line of his march.

9. No progress in the measures adopted for the recognition of criminals was made during the year, orders having been received in January 1897 from the General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaity Department, to discontinue taking measurements for the present, it being probable that the identification of criminals by means of finger prints would immediately supersede the anthropometric system.

10. Return No. II attached shows that no members of wondering Criminal Tribes were arrested during the year.

11. The return last mentioned also shows that no members of other Criminal Tribes were arrested, convicted and under trial during the year.

12. Good progress was made in the Kotputli Nizamat in bringing Minas under control. Of 34 known to have been away from their homes for various periods—some for many years—39 have been induced to return, on promise of pardon for their unlicensed absence, and have been settled down. It is to be hoped that they will not be again lost sight of. A considerable number of Jaipur Minas have been, and I hope will continue to be, arrested on the railway while returning from plundering expeditions in other provinces, travelling generally in disguise as Brahmans and under false names. Arrangements for this purpose were made by Mr. Clogstoun, Assistant General Superintendent at Ajmere, through the instrumentality of an informer, himself a Brahman. Mr. Clogstoun, to whom I desire to express my obligations for the help he has given us, while on tour with me, also inquired into the circumstances of a number of settled-down approvers whom he found to be leading respectable lives. With Mr. Clogstoun's valuable assistance in catching Minas outside the limits of the State and the new Criminal Tribes' Regulations introduced by the Darbar within Jaipur territory, I hope that these professional criminals will before long be got under proper control.

13. Statements of work done by Inspector Balram Rao, Deputy Inspectors Talib Ali and Husainu-d-din and Dafadar Riayat Ali are attached.

Inspector Balram Rao.—An inspection of the Departmental Agency at Jaipur was held by Mr. Clogstoun, the Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaity in Rajputana, on the 23rd April 1897, and the office was found to be in a creditable state. The Inspector was given the usual annual increment to his pay. I have found him good and careful in his office work, and consider him entitled to his next annual increment.

Deputy Inspector Talib Ali joined this Agency on the 28th March 1897 in place of Deputy Inspector Mir Rahim Ali placed on deputation at Ajmere, and has been at Kotputli ever since. His character and work have been good,

and he appears to be active in travelling about his circle. He was instrumental in capturing the celebrated dakait Ram Lal Singh, *alias* Nanji, the best bit of work done in this Agency during the year.

Deputy Inspector Husainu-d-din was a Dafadar till the 31st July 1897, and was promoted to a Deputy Inspector on the 1st August 1897. He has worked well as an office hand, and is deserving of his increment.

Dafadar Riayat Ali was promoted to the 3rd grade of Dafadars with effect from the 1st August 1897. He has been in charge of the armoury at the head-quarters of this Departmental Agency throughout the year and has worked well. He is deserving of his annual increment.

The Najibs, *viz.*, Sheocharan, Yusuf Husain, Mamdu, Deekali and Bahadur Singh (who joined this Agency on the 11th October 1897 in place of Najib Afzal Beig transferred to Ajmer) have all behaved well. They have had practically no work to do.

14. No frontier difficulties have arisen with neighbouring States or British district in regard to crime.

15. The number of letters received and issued during the year was as under, *viz.* :—

					Received.	Issued.
English	...	...	...	...	366	613
Urdu	...	...	...	...	454	738
			Total	...	820	1,021

16. Just at present I am not in a position to make definite proposals for improving the working of the Department, but I hope soon to be able to do so in a separate report.

No. 661, dated Alwar, the 21st February 1898.

From—MAJOR T. C. PEARCE, Political Agent, Alwar,

To—The First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana.

In compliance with the instructions contained in your office letters Nos. ^{637-G}_{1-6-A} and ^{1357-G}₇₆₋₁₁, dated the 3rd March and 15th April 1896, respectively, I have the honour to forward in duplicate this office Annual Report on the Thagi and Dakaiti Operations within the Alwar State for the year ending 31st December 1897, as contained in the accompanying returns Nos. I, II and III.

2. With reference to the instructions conveyed in your letter No. 1273-G., dated the 6th April 1898, I beg to state that, under the State Council's Notification issued in July 1897, Sansias, Kunjars, Multanis and Merwara-Rherwara and Malwi-Moghias (Baoris) resident in the State have been brought under the operations of the rules for the control of Criminal Tribes. With a view to form an accurate and complete register of the members of the tribes named above, a special Police officer was appointed in August last on special duty for this work.

3. Of the Criminal Tribes specified above there are members of only one tribe known here generally as Baoria who are found to be residents in the State. There are 339 Baorias scattered in about 70 villages as detailed below. They have all been duly registered :—

59	Baorias in 11 villages in Alwar Tahsil.			
55	"	"	17	" " Kishangarh Tahsil.
32	"	"	4	" " Mandawar Tahsil.
12	"	"	3	" " Tijara Tahsil.
11	"	"	3	" " Mandhan Tahsil.
80	"	"	18	" " Behror Tahsil.
48	"	"	7	" " Bansur Tahsil.
5	"	"	2	" " Lachmangarh Tahsil.
37	"	"	5	" " Ramgarh Tahsil.
339			70	

4. Further progress in settling the Baorias resident in the State will be duly reported on receipt of information from the Council.

5. During the year under report only one wandering criminal, *viz.*, Jodha, son of Jairam, Kanjar, was arrested, and he was released after the usual reference had been made to the Inspector-General of Police, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, who said that he was not required by his Department.

6. The little work there has been for Deputy Inspector Faiz Mohammad Khan has been well and carefully done, and the yearly increment of Rs. 2 to which he is entitled may be given to him. Najib Gulzar Ali is reported to be a good and steady man.

No. 102-G., dated Oodeypore, 28th February 1898.

From—MAJOR C. W. RAVENSHAW, Officiating Resident, Mewar,

To—The First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana.

I have the honour to submit the Annual Returns of dakaitis reported by the Mewar Darbar as committed in Mewar during the year 1897. These statements do not include cases occurring in the hilly tracts of Mewar, which is mostly inhabited by Bhils, and the Darbar has expressed its inability to obtain particulars of cases occurring there. Formerly when Thagi parties used to visit Mewar, this part of the country was allowed to remain exempt from Thagi operations.

2. No Inspector of the Thagi Department visited Mewar nor were any accused arrested or stolen property recovered during the year through the instrumentality of the officers of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

3. From the statements furnished by the Mewar Darbar, it will be seen that 41 cases of dakaiti were reported during the year. Of these three were unreported cases of 1896, which, though they occurred on 28th May, 16th July and 27th August, were only reported in April, June and July 1897.

In these 41 cases, two persons were killed and 34 wounded and property valued at upwards of Rs. 6,000 was stolen. The number of persons supposed to have been implicated in the dakaities was 466; of whom only 11 were arrested, 4 convicted and 7 are still under trial. In case No. 3 a portion of the stolen property was recovered by the complainant himself through the help of an informer, and in case No. 14 the stolen cattle were captured and restored to their owners by the Indore Police. In case No. 7 the camels were captured from the dakaitis by the Shahpura Police, and 4 criminals out of 12 concerned in the case were also arrested and convicted by the aid of Shahpura Police. The Mewar Darbar have not succeeded in recovering any portion of the stolen property in these 41 cases.

Of the total number of cases, 29 or 71 per cent. were committed in khalsa and 12 in jagir territory, and no cases of jagirdars sheltering criminals or obstructing the Police were brought to light during the year.

4. In July last the Mewar Darbar complained that some of the dakaitis were committed by the Minas of Godwar in Marwar. I addressed the Resident, Western Rajputana States, with a view to obtaining the co-operation of the Marwar Darbar in preventing the Minas from committing further dakaitis on the Mewar border—the Mewar Darbar has not been able to substantiate the charge brought against the Godwar Minas.

5. I have repeatedly spoken to His Highness the Maharana on the subject of improving the Police and Criminal Administration of the State, with the result that in June last an illiterate and inexperienced Rajput, named Man Sing, was appointed Superintendent of the Rajgirai. His selection has, as was anticipated, proved to be a total failure. He has not been able to trace a single case of dakaiti since his appointment; and all previous cases remain undetected as before. There is no real desire on the part of the Darbar to take any effective steps in this direction, and, as there is no official in the State capable of carrying

out or being entrusted with the Police administration, no improvement is probable without the intervention of Government.

Criminal Tribes.

6. The annual statements showing the number of Moghias registered, etc., have been forwarded to the General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department. There were 388 Moghias present in Mewar on 31st December 1897. Of these 283 are cultivators in possession of land, 57 are living with relations and have no land of their own, 34 are chaukidars having little or no land, 9 are labourers and 5 are prisoners.

During the year 11 Moghias died, 4 new men were brought on the register, 7 absconded and 3 returned. In the Choti Sadri District 5 Moghias were supplied with 9 bullocks for cultivation and 24 Moghias received new *patas* for land in the Chitor District.

The Moghias of Hamingarh, Chitor, Bhindar, Kanor, Bansī, Daryawad and Bhadesar were inspected by me during my cold-weather tour. They all appeared to be fairly satisfied and had no serious complaints to make against the local officials.

7. Munshi Ikbāl Sing was appointed Thagi clerk for this Residency in August last, and, excepting that he is not able to prepare the returns in English, he has done the work required of him.

8. For reasons explained in my letter No. 541-G., dated 20th November 1897, the returns for the States of Banswara and Dungarpur have not been submitted, but those for Partabgarh and Kushalgarh will be submitted when received from the Assistant Political Agent, Banswara and Partabgarh, to whom a reminder has been issued.

No. 524, dated Bikanir, the 28th February. 1898.

From—COLONEL H. A. VINCENT, Resident, Bikanir,

To—The First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana.

I have the honour to submit, in duplicate, the Annual Report on the operations of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department in the Bikanir State during the year 1897.

1. Deputy Inspector Chiragh Ali of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department joined the Bikanir Residency, as a departmental clerk, in August, and has since carried on the Thagi and Dakaiti work connected with this office.

2. The usual return, giving the number of dakaitis committed, is attached. It will be observed that four cases were reported during the year against eight in the previous year. The decrease is, no doubt, due to the arrest and conviction of some of the principal members of the gang organised by the well-known outlaw Udji *alias* Ude Singh. Of the four cases reported, none were serious, as no casualties occurred on either side. The dakaitis concerned numbered 21, of whom 7 were arrested, and the rest are still at large, while property, consisting of 7 camels and ornaments, etc., worth Rs. 1,748-7-0, was plundered, of which one camel and property, valued at Rs. 58-12-0, were recovered.

3. During the touring season of 1897-98 I personally enquired into the condition of the Baoris of the districts I passed through, and enclose herewith a memorandum giving the result of the inspection. The defects pointed out have been brought to the notice of the Council with the request that suitable measures should be adopted for their removal, and for the due observance in future of the rules laid down for the control and settlement of the Criminal Tribes. A corrected list of the Baoris of the places inspected has also been forwarded, with a view to the register maintained by the State being corrected accordingly.

4. The following table gives the number of wandering criminals arrested through the medium of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department and the result of their trial:—

No.	Name, etc.	Remarks.
1	Sheodania, Mina of Chawandia ...	Sented to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment each under section 397, Indian Penal Code.
2	Jiwan Das, Shami of Birasri ...	
3	Zora, Ladkhani of Gopinathpura ...	
4	Pokbaria, Baori ...	Discharged for want of proof.
5	Ramlal Singli, <i>alias</i> Nanri, of Chaukri, Jaipur ...	Died while under trial.

5. No serious frontier difficulties, in regard to crime, either with the neighbouring Native States, or British districts, are reported to have occurred during the year under report.

MEMORANDUM.

Subject.—Inspection of Baoris.

The following are the results of a personal inspection of the Baories during the touring season of 1897-98:—

1. The registers are not kept up to date. Matters of ordinary routine, such as births, deaths, changes in domicile, are not correctly entered in the registers. I have noticed, in some instances, that children of the Baoris, though born as far back as 7 years ago, have not been registered. The deaths among the Baoris themselves and their families have also been omitted in several cases.

2. The observance of the rule requiring a report of the absconding of any Baori has been in some cases neglected.

3. The muster of Baoris, as required by section 297 of the Rules for control of Criminal Tribes, has never been taken and no roll-call books are kept.

4. *Patas* of lands have not been granted to some of the Baoris, and the Thanadars and Tahsildars of their respective circles are responsible for failing to report the matters to the higher authorities.

5. Some of the Baoris sold their bullocks last year, but in no register has any alteration been made.

6. No Motamid, as required by section 288 of the rules, has been appointed in this State to superintend the working of the rules. Under the present arrangement, the Appeal Court is considered the Motamid, and that Department cannot possibly inspect the Baoris.

7. No suitable arrangement seems to have been made for making takavi advances for the purchase of bullocks, farm implements, and seed grain as is evident from the fact that this year, in spite of good rain, the Baoris did not cultivate even half of the land held by them. On enquiries made I am led to conclude that that Baoris had not the means to purchase seed and necessary appliances for cultivating their land to the full extent.

H. A. VINCENT, *Colonel,*

Resident.

No. 258-G., dated Kotah, the 4th March 1898:

From—CAPTAIN W. STRATTON, Officiating Political Agent, Kotah,

To—The First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana.

I have the honour to submit in duplicate the statement of dakaitis committed in Kotah territory and brought to notice during the year 1897.

Thirteen dakaitis are shown in the statement, but of these the first two have already appeared in last year's return, which included dakaitis up to the end of March 1897, while the present return is for the calendar year 1897. The third case is one of a dakaiti which took place in 1893, and it is shown now as it was not entered in the last annual return. There were thus only 12 dakaitis committed during the year under report, 6 of them being house dakaitis and 6 road dakaities.

2. There were no cases of cattle daktari or of poisoning for plunder.

3. Only two dakaitis were of a serious nature, in each of which property to the value of about Rs. 2,000 was plundered. In 7 cases arrests were made or extradition applied for by the Police. Twenty-three persons have been convicted and punished, and 7 are still under trial.

4. On the whole I think that the improvement anticipated by Mr. Irwin in his report* last year has been attained, and the measures adopted by the Darbar for re-organising their police administration are acting successfully.

5. There is no agency of the Thugi and Dakaut Department located in this State.

No. $\frac{209}{T. A. D.}$, dated Jodhpur, the 9th April 1898.

From—MAJOR T. C. PEARCE, Officiating Resident, Western Rajputana States, Thapar
and Dakaiti Branch, Jodhpur.

To—The First Assistant Agent to the Governor-General, Bangalore.

In accordance with rule 51 of the Thagi Manual, I have the honour to submit in duplicate the Annual Report on the working of the Department under the Western Rajputana States Residency for the year 1897.

2. The accompanying statement No. 1 shows IT cases as per detail below :—

				Deaths, Burials, Total number of burials	
Marwar cases	...	...	...	No.,	1 19, 15 4 1 16
Sirohi case	...	...	...	No.,	17 4 116 1
				Total	...
					17

10. The above 15 cases were disposed of as follows:—

	No.
Decree passed by the State against the village where the tracks terminated	1
Made over to the Court of Vakils, who decided 2, 3 being still under investigation, i. e., 2 at Jodhpur and 1 Jaipur	5
Dismissed by the State Court	2
Ishtihars issued by the State for the arrest of offenders	2
Under inquiry in Mallani Court	1
Result unknown or apparently the efforts of State Police have failed	4
Total	15

11. Case No. 16 is one of poisoning for plunder in Marwar, the property plundered amounted to Rs. 91, and one man was arrested on suspicion, but was acquitted by the State Faujdari Court for want of evidence.

12. No cases have been prosecuted by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, but in cases Nos. 2, 3 and 4 preliminary enquiry was made by Inspector Daulat Ram attached to this Agency, who was deputed to gather local information, and the cases were subsequently enquired into by the Phalodi Hakim who conducted the prosecution, assisted by the Inspector. The enquiry showed that it was probable that several, if not all, of the persons who were arrested in cases Nos. 2 and 3 were implicated in one or other of the dakaitis; but the evidence on the record was insufficient to justify their conviction and hence the accused were discharged by the Court. As however there were suspicious circumstances against them, they have all (except one man) been called upon to furnish substantial security to be of good behaviour for a period of two years.

13. Case No. 3 is still under investigation with the Court of Vakils, and of the 5 accused arrested, 4 have been released on substantial bail to stand their trial and to re-appear on the arrival from Sindh of Sher Muhamad in whose possession one camel out of the property plundered is said to have been found.

Previous year's cases disposed during the year.

14. In case No. 10 of 1895 one Bishna, who was mentioned in paragraph 22 of last year's report, was sent back to Jaisalmer, as the evidence against him was not sufficient for a conviction.

15. In case No. 17 of 1896 quoted in paragraph 12 of last year's report in which the investigation was shown as pending, the accused have now each been sentenced to 10 year's imprisonment by the Superintendent of Mallani with the approval of the Resident.

16. In case No. 10 of 1896 the Mahakma Khas awarded a decree for half of the amount of plundered property against the villages through which the tracks passed and at which they terminated.

17. Case No. 12 of 1896, the Nawa mail dakaiti, mentioned in paragraph 15 of last year's report, was made over to the court of Vakils, who awarded a decree against the Marwar and Kishangarh States; although the offenders in this case still remain undetected, about 18 or 20 persons suspected of complicity in the mail dakaiti, and who were arrested through the assistance of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, were subsequently found to have taken part in other cases of dakaiti, robbery, etc., and were made over to the Jodhpur, Jaipur and Bikanir States; where they have been tried or are under trial.

Result of the year's work.

18. Although the year was a more favourable one than 1896, the number of dakaitis increased from 13 in 1896 to 15 in 1897. The value of property plundered was Rs. 13,595-4-6, as compared with Rs. 18,361-7-9 in 1896. This is due to the Nawa mail dakaiti last year, which alone accounted for about Rs. 10,000. The number of dakaitis concerned was 104 against 81, and the number of persons wounded was 14 against 11 of last year. The property recovered was less, viz., Rs. 372-3-0 and 3 camels against Rs. 906-4-9 in 1896. These results are disappointing, and it is to be hoped that during the current

Only one theft was committed by a Mina of class A who is now in Jail.

The Sirohi Darbar has issued orders under rule 237, Chapter XIV, of the Thagi Manual enumerating the members of Criminal Tribes, etc.

Jaisalmer.

28. As stated in paragraph 31 of last year's report, no rules for the settlement of Criminal Tribes have been introduced in Jaisalmer; but Inspector Daulat Ram, at the request of the Jaisalmer Darbar, was deputed to make enquiries regarding the Marwar Darbar's complaints against the Bhatias of Jaisalmer residing on the border. From the information collected by the Inspector it appeared that the cultivators on either side of the Jaisalmer-Mallani border were much oppressed by the marauding Bhatias and Pokharna Rajputs of both States, more particularly the Bhatias of the Bhensra, Rajgarh, Modhan and Tejmalot villages of Jaisalmer. These people who are said to be well mounted and armed habitually levy black-mail under the name of "khirni" from the cultivating and pastoral classes and exact a species of ransom for the return of stolen property in the shape of "khuri." In order to put a stop to this condition of affairs both the Marwar and Jaisalmer Darbars were addressed, and, as suggested by the Resident, the Sankra Hakim was changed and a thana was posted by the Marwar Darbar and two thanas by the Jaisalmer Darbar on the border. It is now hoped that the above arrangement may result in a more careful watch being kept over the Bhatias on the border.

Recognition of Criminals.

29. An Alphabetical Register of the Criminal Tribes of Marwar has been prepared by the Superintendent, which may be useful for identifying any absconded members of Criminal Tribes of class A of Marwar who may be arrested in other States.

Arrest and Extradition of Criminal Tribes.

30. Fourteen members of the Criminal Tribes were arrested in Marwar, of these 12, together with the three of last year, whose cases were shown as pending enquiry, were identified and extradited to Bikanir, Sikar, Jaipur, Radhanpur, Sirohi and Mewar. The two cases of this year are pending enquiry. Nine Marwar subjects were arrested and sent back to the State by Mewar, Jaora, and Indore. Some 90 families, who had emigrated from Marwar, were sent back from Central India by Subhan Ali Khan (*vide* paragraph 34 of last year's report).

Work and Character of Departmental Agency Officers.

31. I believe that my predecessor was thoroughly satisfied with the manner in which Inspector Daulat Ram and Dafadar Ghafur Khan* performed

their duties during the year under review.

Frontier difficulties.

32. No frontier difficulties of any importance with Native States or British districts have arisen.

Suggestion for improving the working of the Department.

33. I have not had sufficient experience of local requirements to enable me to offer any suggestions under this heading.

Review by the Resident, Western Rajputana States, on the Annual Report No. 43, dated 30th October 1897, submitted by Mahla Bakhtawar Mal, Superintendent of Criminal Tribes, Marwar, received with letter No. $\frac{6}{2.4}D$, dated 9th February 1898, from the Secretary, Musahib Ala Raj, Marwar.

1. The report shows that progress has been made in the following respects:—

- (a) The members of Criminal Tribes who have been brought under class A have been provided with 9, 335 $\frac{3}{4}$ bigas of additional land.

- (b) The number of those brought under control, *i. e.*, on the register, has also increased from 5, 716 in 1895-96 to 6, 157 in 1896-97.
- (c) The fine fund system has been introduced during the year.
- (d) In order to keep a check over the cattle of the members of Criminal Tribes, the system of branding cattle has been suggested and approved.
- (e) The number of thefts shows a decrease from 1,964 in the previous year to 1,268 in 1896-97.
- (f) The total area of land held by members of the Criminal Tribes which has been surveyed is 38,677½ bigas and 2 biswas against 28,058½ bigas previously measured, showing an increase of 10,618 bigas surveyed during the year. Out of 598,822½ bigas which are in the possession of the members of Criminal Tribes of both classes, A and B, the total area held by class A is 168,773½ bigas and by class B 430,048¾, of which 15,135½ and 23,512 bigas, respectively, have been surveyed.
- (g) *Patas* have been granted for 140,888½ bigas out of the total area held.

2. These results are satisfactory and reflect credit on Mahta Bakhtawar Mal.

JODHPUR; }
The 7th April 1898. }

(Sd.) T. C. PEARS,
Resident, Western Rajputana States.

APPENDIX B.

No. 3044-G., dated Indore Residency, the 26th April 1898.

From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL D. W. K. BARR, C.S.I., Agent to the Governor-General in Central India,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Annual Reports prescribed by Rule 51 of the Manual for the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department received from the Agencies in Central India.

Reviewing the reports individually the noteworthy points in each seem to me to be as follows:—

Gwalior.—A large increase in the number of cases of dakaiti is shown, but this increase is more apparent than real, because a great many of them, were undoubtedly committed by persons made reckless by starvation, but who do not belong to the criminal classes. A number of cases are trivial, and two, in which the numbers concerned are returned as 2,500 and 400 respectively, partake more of the nature of riots than of ordinary dakaitis. The number of cases, however, in which those concerned are returned as 20 and 40, and in some cases, even 60, show that there exists more than one formidable gang of organised dakaitis. The attention of His Highness the Maharaja Sindhia was attracted to this fact, and at the commencement of the present year he personally organised extensive operations in the Isagarh and Chanderi Districts. These operations have already led to the death or capture of several dakaitis, and there is reason to hope that they will finally prove completely successful. The energetic measures of the Dholpur Darbar across the border made a marked improvement also in the Bajranggarh District. The Moghias settled in Gwalior were unable to bear the strain of the famine and 19 of them absconded. The relations with the neighbouring States and Districts of British India and the arrangements for the arrest and exchange of criminals were most cordial and satisfactory.

Malwa.—The number of cases reported was 26, of which all, except four, were cases of highway robbery or cattle-lifting. The proportion of arrests to those concerned and of property recovered to that which was robbed compares very favourably with reports from other Agencies, and these results were achieved by the Darbars without the aid proffered by the Department. The condition of the criminal tribes settled in the Agency was good. Many absconders from other settlements were arrested and dealt with. The revised rules have been cheerfully accepted by the Darbars and appear to work well.

The subordinates of the Department are well reported on.

Bhopal.—The proportion between the property recovered and that robbed is not very satisfactory, being only 2 per cent.; and the details as to the number of persons concerned and those arrested in the different cases are not given.

Eight cases of poisoning for plunder are reported, but only two persons were convicted, while seven were acquitted.

A separate report is attached on the Moghia settlements which are fairly numerous in this Agency. The report shows that in many cases their condition leaves much to be desired. The number of absconders reported, *viz.*, 44, is also not at all satisfactory.

The subordinates of the Department are well reported of, except the Inspector, whose transfer the Political Agent desires.

Bundelkhand.—In the States of Orchha and Datia there are certain well-known and well organised gangs responsible for several of the cases of dakaiti reported, but the great majority of cases were, as in Gwalior, the direct result of famine. The amount of property recovered, however, compares very unfavourably with the amount robbed, being less than 1 per cent.

There are no settlements of criminal tribes in Bundelkhand.

The subordinates of the Department are well reported on and several of them recommended for promotion or increments of pay.

Baghelkhand.—Only five cases are reported and none of these was committed by organised dakaitis, but by ordinary bad characters, emboldened in one case by starvation and in the other four by the inefficiency of the police.

The apathy and negligence of the Jagirdar of Kamta are brought to notice.

Bhopalwar.—In view of the increase of dakaiti caused by the prevailing famine, the Inspector was given 100 men of the Malwa Bhil Corps with whom he patrolled the country. He did excellent work in arresting several dakaitis and undoubtedly exercised a deterrent effect upon others.

Najib Indrajit Singh is also reported as having done exceptionally good work and is strongly recommended for promotion.

The want of a few experienced approvers, well acquainted with that part of the country, is urgently represented.

2. The reports as a whole seem satisfactory except in the matter of the measures for the recognition of criminals, in which no progress is reported. The relations between the Department and the Darbars have been good. The period under review has been an exceptionally trying one and the tabulated figures do not give a just appreciation of the operations of the year. The number of cases in which dakaiti was the work of non-criminals, driven to desperation by hunger, not only swell the total number of cases reported, but, from the class of persons concerned, make arrests more difficult, and from the nature of the property stolen render any but immediate recovery impossible. Under all the circumstances the work of the year appears creditable to the Darbars, to the Assistant General Superintendent, Mr. Waterfield, and to his subordinates, who have, with one exception, been well reported on.

No. 1954, dated Gwalior Residency, the 17th April 1898.

From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. H. NEWELL, Officiating Resident at Gwalior,

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in Rule 51 of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department Manual, I have the honour to submit the following report for the year 1897 on the working of the Department in the States under the Gwalior Residency.

(1) Number and description of the cases of dakaiti or poisoning for plunder recorded from the information received through the Gwalior Darbar.

2. The usual Statement I is attached, Statements II and III are blank.

Statement I has been compiled from the returns submitted by the Gwalior Darbar to this office. It shows that 175 dakaitis were perpetrated against 94 in the previous year. All dakaitis, committed throughout the Gwalior State, are shown. They occurred in the following districts:—

	1895.	1896.	1897.
Gird Gwalior	1	3	12
Blind	0	6	1
Bhander	2	7	7
Tawarghar	4	10	6
Sikarwari	2	1	1
Narwar	2	11	11
Sabalgarh and Sheopur	2	2	4
Isagarh	2	8	31
Bajranggarh	5	15	10
Bhilsa	7	8	8
Mangrauli	2	2	4
Chanderi	0	12	46
	29	85	141

The foregoing figures show only the dakaitis committed in Gwalior territory under the Gwalior Residency. Dakaitis committed in the Bhopawar, Bhopal and Malwa Agencies are represented separately, *viz.*—

				1895.	1896.	1897.	
Nimach	4	3	4
Amjhera	3	4	12
Ujjain	1	1	4
Shajapur	2	0	5
Agar	1	1	0
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
					11	9	24
Figures of previous statement	29	85	141
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total				...	40	94	175

For easy comparison the dakaitis of the two previous years are also given.

3. The dakaitis were committed during the following months of the year:—

				1895.	1896.	1897.	
January	2	11	16
February	5	7	23
March	4	5	17
April	3	4	18
May	5	9	21
June	3	6	17
July	3	3	8
August	2	3	18
September	3	3	5
October	1	16	11
November	4	12	11
December	5	15	10
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	...	40	94	175

During the year no mail robberies were reported.

4. It will be seen that there has been a considerable increase during the year under report, and especially so in the Isagarh and Chanderi Districts. There has also been a slight increase in the Gwalior, Amjhera, and Agar Districts. Regarding the increase of dakaitis in the Isagarh Prant, His Highness brings to notice that some cases have been the work of organised gangs of dakaitis, while others are the result of the recent famine and scarcity, that the Karakhera and Tori gangs of dakaitis have hitherto had the credit of committing all dakaitis in these districts, but that recent operations against these gangs have disclosed the presence of other dakaitis, of whom 15 have already been arrested, who have confessed to many dakaitis.

I would add that, at the commencement of 1898, His Highness personally organised extensive operations against the amnestied and other dakaitis in the Chanderi and Isagarh Districts. Some have already been shot and a few captured, and there is fair reason to hope that the extensive operations, now going on, will meet with success.

5. There has been a satisfactory decrease in the Bajranggarh District. I was informed a few days ago that no Gujar gangs have, as heretofore, come from Dholpur territory since March last. This is doubtless owing to the great help which the Dholpur Darbar has afforded by their recent energetic measures against their Gujar dakaitis. Since April last 52 offenders, asked for by the Gwalior Darbar, have been handed over. Of these, 15 have already been

sentenced to term of ten years and upwards, and the remainder are under trial.

6. The petty States under the supervision of the Gwalior Resident have reported the occurrence of the following cases of dacoity and cattle-lifting :—

					1896.	1897.
Sirsi	...	...	...	...	1	3
Raghugarh	...	...	...	...	0	2
Umri	...	...	...	...	1	6
Agra Barkhera	...	...	...	...	0	3
Chabra	...	...	...	...	2	3
Dharnaoda	...	...	...	...	1	3
Bhadsaura	...	...	...	...	2	1
Garra	...	...	...	...	1	3
Paron	...	...	...	...	2	0
Kaniadhana	...	...	...	...	2	0
					—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	12	24
					—	—

The statement attached shows that seven cases of cattle-lifting are included, and that most of the dakaitis were technical cases, attributable to the prevailing scarcity.

It may be noted that the total number of dakaitis committed during the past year within the scope of the Gwalior Residency amounted to 165 compared with 97 of the previous year.

(2) Number and description of cases of dakaiti or poisoning for plunder brought to notice by the subordinates of the Departmental Agency, or which has been enquired into by the Thagi and Dacoity Department.

7. The Departmental Agency stationed at Gwalior brought to notice and enquired into the following offences :—

- (a) A case of dakaiti in Mauza Mahodra in the petty State of Bhadaura which on enquiry by the Bhadaura authorities was found to be of a trivial nature.
- (b) A dakaiti in the house of one Seth Kaluram Bihari Lal at Kasba Raghugarh, which on enquiry by the Raja turned out to be only a theft case.
- (c) The following cattle-lifting cases said to have occurred in Sawan (July) of Sambat 1953 (A. D. 1896) :—

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| (1) Galon | ... | } In Raghugarh, |
| (2) Khara | ... | |
| (3) Sub Ruk | ... | |
| (4) Dawan in Dharnaoda, | | |

the last of which has been authenticated by the Thakur.

- (d) Dakaiti cases occurring at Birkheri in Dharnaoda and Pura in Kaniadhana.

8. On a reference from the Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and

(1) Dakaiti on the Dhodor Road, Pargana Sheo-pura, Elaga Gwalior.

(2) Dakaiti on the Kacha Road of Mouza Laotla, Pargana Jaura, District Sikarwari.

(3) Dakaiti in Mouza Bhatnagar, Pargana Pori, District Narwar.

(4) Dakaiti in Mouza Nidhan, Pargana Jaura, District Sikarwari.

Dacoity, Rajputana, the Gwalior Darbar authenticated the four dakaitis noted in the margin, but they were unable to authenticate other dakaitis enquired after at Jat Chauki Kawa and Sirsi Man, as the parganas had not been given.

At the request of the Assistant General Superintendent of Thagi and Dakaiti Department, Indore, Nirpat Singh of Dhond in Karera, a released convict, was re-arrested by the Durbar authorities.

(3) and (4) Number of dakaits or poisoners, convicted by the Darbar, specifying the cases in which conviction was obtained through the instrumentality of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

Number of persons, charged with dakaity, or poisoning for plunder, acquitted by the Darbar, the Political Officer, or the head of the administration respectively.

9. The following statement shows the number of criminals in dakaiti cases, convicted, or acquitted by the Gwalior Darbar, during the year 1897. No cases of poisoning for plunder are reported :—

The appendix shows the cases dealt with by the Resident in his Court.

Place where dakaiti occurred, with Pargana and Zilla.	Date of occurrence.	Number of criminals convicted.	Number of criminals acquitted or released.	Remarks showing escapes or deaths.
(1) Tola Pabari, Pargana Pichore, District Chanderi.	4th January 1897 ...	1	...	
(2) Nashi, Pargana Gobad, District Tawarghar.	28th December 1896 ...	2	...	
(3) Rahari, Pargana Teonda, District Bhilsa.	20th January 1896 ...	3	5	
(4) Akora, Pargana Umri, District Bhind ...	21st October 1896 ...	9	2	
(5) Akbarpur, Pargana and District Gird Gwalior.	14th February 1897 ...	6	...	
(6) Seroha, Pargana and District Narwar ...	29th December 1896 ...	4	1	
(7) Bursye, Pargana Karera, District Chanderi	9th January 1896 ...	2	...	
(8) Ratwai, Pargana and District Gird Gwalior	13th October 1896 ...	5	...	
(9) Doongasria, District Isagarh ...	6th January 1897 ...	11	1	
(10) Kherai, Pargana Daboh, District Bhandar	11th February 1897 ..	2	...	
(11) Khairoria, Pargana Karera, District Chanderi.	9th May 1897 ...	4	...	
(12) Chirola, Pargana Pachar, District Mangoli.	26th December 1896 ...	8	13	
(13) Pewye, Pargana Chachora, District Bajrangarh.	10th March 1897 ...	1	...	
(14) Rampura, Pargana Karera, District Chanderi.	26th July 1896 ...	7	4	
(15) Aroli, Pargana Gormi, District Tawarghar	27th November 1896 ...	5	2	
(16) Baner Khurd, Pargana Ranod, District Isagarh.	13th December 1896 ...	3	...	
(17) Salmana, Pargana and District Sheopur ...	2nd February 1897 ...	10	1	
(18) Godraon, Pargana Nalkhera, District Agar	1st December 1895 ...	6	...	
(19) Mouzapura, Pargana Daboh, District Bhandar.	20th January 1896 ...	10	4 and 1 pardoned.	
(20) Chungdeni, Pargana Kolaras, District Isagarh.	11th February 1896 ...	5	...	
(21) Sikroda, Pargana Jaura, District Sikarwari	26th August 1895 ...	3	...	
(22) Jhini, Muzra Birkhera, Manpura, Pargana Karera, District Chanderi.	28th June 1896 ...	8	...	
(23) Powe, Pargana Mahagaon, District Bhind	10th July 1896 ...	3	11	
(24) Janghar, Pargana and District Isagarh ...	16th April 1896 ...	11	2	
(25) Mamoni, Pargana and District Narwar ...	25th September 1896 ...	3	...	
(26) Richai, Pargana Karahal, District Seopur	26th February 1897 ...	6	1	
(27) Baroh, Pargana Bagchini, District Sikarwari	7th February 1897 ...	4	...	
(28) Tera, Pargana Lahar, District Bhandar ...	24th March 1897 ...	3	4	
(29) Karoti, Pargana Bhitarwar, District Narwar.	6th January 1896 ...	7	...	

Place where dakaiti occurred, with Pargana and Zilla.	Date of occurrence.	Number of criminals convicted.	Number of criminals acquitted or released.	Remarks showing escapes or deaths.
(30) Naori Kalan and Cholawali, Pargana Sipri, District Narwar.	28th September 1896 ...	4	...	...
(31) Berara Supan, Pargana and District Bhandar.	27th March 1897 ...	11	...	...
(32) Chauki, Pargana Sipri, District Narwar ...	23rd February 1897 ...	1	3	...
(33) Lulluari, Pargana Daboh, District Bhandar	30th June 1897 ...	4	1	...
(34) Samalia, Pargana Bijaipur, District Sabalgarh.	15th October 1896 ...	2	...	...
(35) Pudra, Pargana Pichore District Chanderi	4th January 1897 ...	4	...	2
(36) Bilita Bozrug, Pargana Pichore, District Chanderi.	17th January 1897 ...	6	...	...
(37) Tenhra, Pargana Karera, District Chanderi.	26th June 1891 ...	3	4	1
(38) Bhairassa, Pargana Kolaras, District Isagarh.	28th December 1896 ...	8	...	...
(39) Baori, Pargana Bagchini, District Sikarwari.	27th December 1896 ...	1	...	...
(40) Jungle of village Samer, Pargana Sonkach, District Shajapur.	7th July 1897 ...	2	3	...
(41) Fugra, Pargana Pichore, District Chanderi	7th July 1897 ...	6	...	...
Total	...	204	63	3

Appendix (Resident's Court).

(1) Amlia in Raghugarh ...	4th July 1895 ...	2	...	...
(2) Bilkheri in Agra Barkhera ...	24th February 1897 ...	1	...	...
(3) Ditto ditto ...	24th March 1897 ...	2	...	...
(4) Bilkheri in Dharnaoda ...	13th March 1897 ...	9	...	...
(5) Pura in Kaniadhana ...	2nd December 1896 ...	...	8	...
Total	...	14	8	...

10. The following information is recorded from the reports received from

(5) The work done in settling criminal tribes and result of personal enquiries into the subject made by the Political Officer in the course of his tour.

time to time during the year from the Moghia Motamid at Bhelsa. The reports were forwarded to the General Superin-

tendent and give details of the whereabouts and parentage of the persons concerned :—

(1) Moghias and Baories, who absconded ...

1. Makunda.
2. Zalim.
3. Balakdas.
4. Mahadev.
5. Bharat Singh.
6. Hari.
7. Tika.
8. Dayaram.
9. Pancham Singh.
10. Pitam Singh.
11. Lallu.
12. Jodha.
13. Heera.
14. Buddha.
15. Shama.
16. Popa.
17. Dayaram.
18. Lachman, and
19. Chatra.

(2) Moghias and Baories arrested and sentenced to imprisonment.	(a) For absence without permission ...	Tika.
	(b) For theft ...	Kanbha.
	(c) For house-breaking ...	1. Birbhan. 2. Kanha. 3. Ramchand. 4. Onkar. 5. Parsaram. 6. Hira. 7. Ramlal, and 8. Hariram.
(3) Moghias and Baoris, who came in and gave themselves up of their own accord.		1. Ramlal. 2. Tika, and 3. Kanhai.
(4) Moghias and Baoris absent with permission		1. Dewa. 2. Kishna. 3. Lallu. 4. Mani Ram. 5. Balak Das. 6. Ramchand. 7. Ramprasad, and 8. Pharat Singh.
(5) Moghias and Baoris arrested in Gwalior and sent to foreign territory.		1. Deogir. 2. Bhawana. 3. Bhima. 4. Ratna. 5. Kalyan, and 6. Devi Singh.
(6) Moghias and Baoris arrested in foreign territory and sent to Gwalior.		1. Lallu. 2. Gora, and 3. Tulsia.
(7) Moghias and Baoris released from Jail		1. Hira Singh. 2. Deogir. 3. Moti. 4. Lachhman. 5. Pitam Singh. 6. Bhima, and 7. Ramprasad.
(8) New settlers		1. Chatra, Mussamats— 2. Miran. 3. Heeri, and 4. Soni.

11. A communication was sent on the 2nd April 1897 by the Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti, Indore, to the Gwalior Moghia Motamid, enquiring what arrangements were made for the maintenance of the Moghias and of the condition of the tribe in the time of scarcity. The Motamid, in his reply, reported to this office that, since the inspection by the Assistant General Superintendent of the Bagris in February last, they have been repeatedly advised to take advantage of Famine relief works, but without avail. At the Motamid's suggestion the Darbar sanctioned the distribution of 20 Manies of grain. The Motamid further reported that no Bagries were allowed to emigrate.

12. No progress made.

(6) The progress of the measures adopted for the recognition of criminals.

13. In his Rubkar, dated 23rd March 1897, No. 244, the Political Agent in Bhopal reported that a gang of poisoners, consisting of 40 persons, had arrived at Ujjain and the adjoining districts, who administered stupefying drugs to boys and girls wearing ornaments and carried them away; and that sometimes they killed them and took off their ornaments. In some places they practise as native Hakims and administer poison in their doses—more especially the gang administer poison in parshad (religious present). Copies of this Rubkar were forwarded to the Gwalior Darbar and the petty States of this Agency with a view to arrest them. Probably some of the gang visited Guna, where some sweets, said to have been poisoned, was offered to a child on 25th March 1897.

(7) The number of wandering criminals arrested in entified and extradited.

14. *Establishment—*

(8) The work and character of each subordinate of the Department with an opinion as to whether such subordinate is entitled to any yearly increment that may be due to him.

Inspector	...	Wilayat-ulla Khan.
Deputy Inspector	...	Barakat Ali (now on privilege leave).
2 Dafadars	...	{ 1. Yadu Rao. 2. Kanhai.
4 Najibs.	...	{ 1. Tulsiram. 2. Subhan Ali. 3. Riazud-din. 4. Krishna Rao.

Since I took charge in November last nothing has occurred to warrant me in recommending any of the subordinates for any increments. Regarding their character I propose reporting on this confidentially.

15. Difficulties have not arisen in arresting offenders who have escaped into

(9) Frontier difficulties in regard to crime which may have arisen with neighbouring States or British Districts.

British Districts. The arrangements for the arrest of criminals and watching their movements, made with the Dholpur authorities, have been friendly and successful, as well as with the States of the Bundelkhand Agency. The Magistrates of Lalitpur and Jhansi have always been ready and energetic to assist the Darbar on their respective borders, and I feel assured that they will acknowledge to receiving the same assistance from the Gwalior Durbar.

16. As I only took charge in November last and have not had an oppor-

(10) Suggestions for improving the working of the Department.

tunity to visit the dacoit-infested districts and Moghia settlement, I hardly yet feel in a position to remark upon the working of the Department or for suggesting improvement.

No. 411, dated Sehore, the 6th February 1898.

From—CAPTAIN L. S. NEWMARCH, Political Agent in Bhopal,

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

In accordance with paragraph 51 of the Thagi and Dakaiti Manual, I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of the Agent to the Governor-General and for transmission to the General Superintendent of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, the accompanying report by me on the operations of that department during the year 1897.

Memorandum by the the Political Agent in Bhopal on the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department in the Bhopal Agency for the year 1897 as required by rule No. 51 of the Thagi and Dakaiti Manual.

(1) Number and description of the cases of dakaiti or poisoning for plunder recorded from information received through the Darbar. Eighty-one cases of dakaiti were recorded from information received through the several States. Details as under:—

Name of State.	Number of cases.	Value of property plundered.	Value of property recovered.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bhopal	58	32,589 7 9	1,066 8 3
Indore District	11	4,735 10 0	458 12 0
Gwalior District	4	5,177 6 0	...
Sironj Pargana of Tonk	2	5,664 14 0	...
Narsinghgarh	3	572 7 3	...
Karwai	1	856 2 0	...
Pathari	1	770 0 0	379 0 0
Piplianagar	1	115 5 0	0 6 0
Total	81	50,481 4 6	1,904 10 3
As compared with figures of last year.	43	42,559 2 3	680 1 0

- (2) Number and description of the cases of dakaiti or poisoning for plunder brought to notice by the subordinates of the Departmental Agency, or which have been enquired into by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.
- Eight cases of poisoning for plunder were reported during the year by the Bhopal Darbar, in which 20 persons were poisoned and nine persons died. Rs. 100-6-0 worth of property was plundered, out of which property worth Rs. 0-4-6 was recovered.
- Twenty-eight cases of dakaiti—all in the Bhopal State—were brought to notice by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, in which property to the aggregate value of Rs. 20,201-11-9 was plundered, and Rs. 647-6-0 worth was recovered.
- The Departmental Agency also made enquiries in four dakaiti cases *viz.*, one in Narsinghgarh, the second in Pathari, the third in Sironj and the fourth in Piplianagar, the occurrences of which were reported by the States concerned.
- The Government Railway Police on the Indian Midland Railway reported the occurrence of a poisoning case, in which a gateman and his family, consisting of three persons, were poisoned at a level crossing gate, 1½ miles from Bhopal Railway Station towards Ujjain. None died, no property was plundered, nor can the number of poisoners be ascertained.
- (3) Number of dakaitis or poisoners convicted by the Darbar, specifying the cases in which conviction was obtained through the instrumentality of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.
- Sixty persons were convicted for dakaitis in the Bhopal State, and of this number the conviction of one man, *viz.*, Pema Moghia, concerned in the Debipura dakaiti, was obtained through the instrumentality of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.
- (NOTE.—This includes 18 persons convicted during the year by the Political Agent in Bhopal for being concerned in dakaities committed by them in several minor States)
*Two poisoners were convicted by the Bhopal Darbar.
- (4) Number of persons charged with dakaiti or poisoning for plunder acquitted by the Darbar, the Political Officer or the Head of the Administration respectively.
- Ninety-one persons charged with dakaiti were acquitted by the Bhopal Darbar, five by the Political Agent in Bhopal and none by the Head of the Administration.
- Seven persons charged with poisoning for plunder were acquitted by the Bhopal Darbar.
- (5) The work done in settling criminal tribes and the results of personal enquiries into the subject made by the Political Officer in the course of his tour.
- Inspected the Moghia settlement in the following States:—
Karwai, Sironj (of Tonk), Maksudangarh, Khilchipur—in my cold weather tour. My notes regarding them are attached. The other settlements will be examined by Mr. Waterfield, Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti, because the Moghias are the special charge of that Department. Mr. Waterfield's report has not yet been received, but it can be included in the review of the year 1898 to which it will more properly belong.
- (6) The progress of the measures adopted for the regulation of criminals.
- Nil, i.e., if this refers to anthropometry.*
- (7) The number of wandering criminals arrested, identified and extradited.
- Ten Moghias of Bhopal State were arrested in Rajgarh and Narsinghgarh and extradited to Bhopal.
- (8) The work and character of each subordinate of the Department, with an opinion as to whether such subordinate is entitled to any yearly increment that may otherwise be due to him.
- Inspector Habibu-l-Rahman is a very unsatisfactory officer. His conduct in one case of fabricating false evidence is now under enquiry by Mr. Waterfield.† I have no confidence in Habibu-l-Rahman, and I hope it will be possible to send me another Inspector in his place.
- Chajju Singh is a smart, able and zealous officer; thoroughly trustworthy. I recommend him for promotion.

* These convictions are not shown in the Return (C. S. B.)

† The enquiry failed to establish the charge against the Inspector (C. S. B.)

L. S. NEWMARCH,

The 6th February 1898.

Political Agent in Bhopal.

Notes made by the Political Agent in Bhopal on his inspection of the Moghia settlements of certain States during the cold weather tour of 1897.

Karwai, 25th October.—Inspected the Moghia settlement this morning. There is only one settlement now in Karwai, and that is within a mile of the town. There is said to be one Moghia at Sherwasa, but I did not know that when I passed through that village. He is said, however, to be a good cultivator and a reclaimed character who gives no cause for anxiety. The Sherwasa Moghia (Gopi) now pays full rent for his land.

On the 1st January 1897 there were 31 registered Moghias in Karwai, and this morning there were only 14.

One (Lachmana) has lately been killed by the Sironj Police, one lives at Sherwasa; there are three in the Mahmuda Jagir and 14 at Karwai, and 15 have run away since the 1st January 1897.

There is no reason apparent why 15 men should have run away since 1st January 1897. It may be due, and I think is due, to the fact that they are strictly kept and do not like the restraints of their life here. I can discover no other reason, such as harsh treatment, for all the remaining Moghias admitted to me that each had 20 bigas of land, and at least one pair of bullocks (in some cases more), that they had each received for food grain $2\frac{1}{2}$ maunds, or 100 seers since the 1st January 1897, and that for seed-grain they had each received an average of 92 seers since the 1st January last. These are liberal allowances considering that last year (1896) was the first year in which they had been required to pay half the normal rates of assessment.

This year they will again be required to pay the same. One Moghia only asked for a remission, but he could give no sufficient reason for his request.

The Munsarim, Yusuf Ali, appears to be a good executive man, but he is not handy with his registers and records of details, *e.g.*, as to what each Moghia sowed or reaped in any one year, and I have warned him that if he does not improve it will be necessary to replace him by another man. In a small colony of 14 Moghias he ought to know every detail about every man, and this is far from being the case. Yet this is his sole work, and he lives on the spot.

All the Moghias—men, women and children—appeared to be in good condition. Their huts were miserable dwellings of thatch, but not inferior to the huts of many cultivators. I am going to build another well for them. The Moghias of the Mahmuda Jagir—only three in number now—have not hitherto been under efficient control owing to the jealousy of the late Jagirdar who has for long past been trying to establish a position independent of the Karwai State, and has constantly resented any interference by the Nawabs. I have no doubt that he is nothing but an ordinary Jagirdar, with no exclusive rights; but the Karwai Chiefs have hitherto been too weak or too timid to assert their rights. The Jagirdar is now dead; however, the adoption of his heir, who is a boy, about six years of age, has not yet been confirmed, and during the minority the State will administer the Jagir in the interests of the minor. I therefore propose, after the next rabi harvest is reaped, to transfer the Mahmuda Moghias to Karwai, and debit the cost of their maintenance (if any) to the Jagir, *i.e.*, from the cost of their maintenance, will be deducted any revenue paid by them, and to it will be debited a proportionate share, *e.g.*, $\frac{3}{17}$ of the charges; for supervision.

This transfer will be in every way advantageous and will remove the not infrequent incursions of Gwalior and Sironj Police into Mahmuda to discover imaginary dacoits in real dacoities.

Sironj, 1st November.—I inspected the Moghia settlement about 3 miles out of Sironj.

The management is unsatisfactory.

Not a single Moghia has the regulation 20 bigas of land: seven have no land at all: twelve have no bullocks: one man has only 5 bigas, another only 6, another only 8. One man had received bullocks from the State, but they were unfit for work.

There are only 18 male Moghias altogether: and since 1st February 1897, when the present Munsarim was appointed, three men have deserted, but of these two have returned.

Fourteen men have been given a moderate—perhaps a sufficient—amount of seed-grain, and all have subsequently paid for it.

The settlement is of eight years' standing and therefore full rent is demanded of them. It appears to have been paid by those who happen to cultivate any land, and there are very few arrears.

They all asked for leave to watch the fields at night which they represent as being devastated by wild animals. I have recommended to the Darbar that this leave should be given to those who are good cultivators only, and should be regarded as the reward of good conduct.

One man (Ranjit) asked to be reimbursed the price of a gun which had been taken from him. About this I have written to the Darbar.

The huts they occupy are above the average. Another well is required, and a tank might easily be made to catch the water running off the hill, at the foot of which their fields lie. The Darbar will be addressed accordingly.

The Munsarim appears to be a good man.

My information is derived directly from the Moghias in the absence of all State officials: it was subsequently verified by the Munsarim's registers: so I am satisfied that it is correct.

Maksudangarh, 6th November.—The Moghias. These are settled at Kolarus, 2 miles from Maksudangarh. Present 19 men, including 2 boys: about 12 ordered to be enrolled by the General Superintendent of the Thagi and Dakaiti.

All have the minimum (20 bigas) of land and some have much more. All have at least one pair each of bullocks: and the bullocks are exceptionally good.

The registers are well kept. Fifteen men have run away since March 1897: no reason assignable. These Moghias have been settled in the State for eleven years, but at Kolarus only for four years. They have not yet, however, paid any revenue: for this failure I think the Munsarim is responsible. He has been in charge of these same Moghias for six years, but has apparently not yet tried to collect revenue from them. I have told him that, as their crops this year are very good, half the usual revenue is to be levied from them all, and that he will be responsible for its collection. He is a very smart man—probably too smart for the good of the state.

The site of this settlement is good: there is abundance of water (6 or 7 wells), and the Moghias each had over three maunds of seed in June last.

So far as the Superintendent of the state is concerned, the management of this settlement is good: so far as the Munsarim is concerned, it is unsatisfactory.

Khilchipur, 16th November.—Moghias of Khilchipur. These are settled in three villages—Bamangaon, Chamari and Bijpati, about 12 miles from Khilchipur. I rode out this morning to see these settlements.

Bamangaon.—On register 15: present 12. Since 1st January 1897, 12 men have fled away and four have been imprisoned.

They all have 20 bigas of land each, but they do not all cultivate that amount; four men have only one bullock apiece. All have had sufficient seed and food-grain this year.

Nearly all the men have been here for more than three years, but they pay no revenue.

The Moghias live in a small hamlet adjoining this village, but there is a great want of water for purposes of cultivation.

One boy, Gulab, aged 13, but looks more, is not registered, and has neither land nor bullocks. The Munsarim was told to register him, and to see that he was given land and bullocks.

There is a Thanadar in charge of the colony, but he has only been in charge of it for four months.

The wives of the men in jail complained that they had no one to cultivate their land for them.

The points calling for attention will be brought to the notice of the Darbar.

One Panni, wife of Kaniram, had one of her bullocks distrained 2½ years ago, and the case is said to be still under enquiry.

Amedia, son of Lachman, aged 14, ordered to be registered, and supplied with land and bullocks.

The village of Bamangaon itself contains all castes other than Moghias.

Chamari—14 registered, present 9: 5 in jail.

Two men have no land, one has no bullocks, two men have only one bullock: one woman has 20 bigas, but no bullocks: all have had sufficient seed of food-grain: nearly all have been settled for four years, but pay no revenue: want of water for cultivation: there is no well, but a nalah.

Gangi, wife of Gangaram, whose husband is in jail, has only one biga of land and one bullock.

Radha, wife of Kalu, is in similar circumstances.

Deo, widow of Moti Jemadar, has no bullocks.

There are all castes in this village; and the Jagirdar who owns most of the land round it wishes to oust the Moghias from it.

All defects will be brought to the notice of the Darbar, and such action as is necessary will be taken.

Bijapati.—A new village founded this year, consisting exclusively of Moghias.

Registered 30, present 25 : one dead : two in jail : two have fled.

All, except two, have 20 bighas of land apiece, and these two have only just returned to the village. Nine men have not got two bullocks each. They have all seed-grain in varying quantities from Rs. 5 worth downwards.

They have all had sufficient food-grain, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a seer per diem. The seed and food-grain has been recovered from them.

There are two wells, but one of them is bad, and generally there is a want of water for cultivation.

One boy complained that his father Gangaram had been killed in the village of Gareth by one Kishna Dangi, and that no proper enquiry had been made. It will now be made, and such action as is necessary in respect of defects will be taken.

L. S. NEWMARCH,
Political Agent in Bhopal.

The 6th February 1898.

No. 21-I., dated Nowgong, the 24th-25th February 1898.

From—CAPTAIN J. R. C. COLVIN, I. S. C., Political Agent in Bundelkhand;

To—The General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department (through First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, Indore.)

In accordance with the instructions contained in paragraph 51 of the rules for the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, I have the honor to forward a report of the working of the Department in the Bundelkhand Sub-agency.

2. The return herewith attached gives details of all dakaitis committed during the year under review.

The returns for the past three years when summarised are as follows :—

Number of dakaitis.	Persons concerned.	Arrested.	Property looted.		Recovered.	
			Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
1895 ... 9	100	21	4,033.	4 6.	6 3	9
1896 ... 23.	346	173.	10,222	5 9	786	5 3.
1897 ... 41	492	108	10,867	1 0	83 13	3.

The above figures would tend to show a steady increase in the number of cases of dakaiti and the persons concerned therein, whilst the numbers arrested, and the amount of property recovered, compare unfavourably with those of previous years.

3. These figures will, however, I think, on closer examination, prove to be less unsatisfactory than they would at first sight appear.

Firstly.—Many of the cases reported as dakaitis, though falling within the technical definition of that offence, have not been the work of well known and organised gangs—but the outcome of the recent bad years and general distress, and have been perpetrated by a few local badmashes incited to commit such offences in the hope of securing grain and other food materials to satisfy immediate wants—and the men so banded together to seize an opportunity which may have offered itself have ceased to exist as an organized gang after the perpetration of the offence and the consequent passing away of the temptations suddenly placed in their way of readily and easily acquiring food.

Secondly.—Of the total number shown as having been concerned in dakaitis in 1897, 126 have been concerned only in grain and small petty dakaitis, the outcome of famine; whilst similarly of the total amount of Rs. 10,867 shown as the value of property looted, Rs. 1,726-10-6 represents the value of

property looted on account of such dakaitis. This would leave the return on account of what may be fairly termed as 'famine dakaitis' as follows:—

Dakaitis.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Property looted.	Recovered.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
11	126	24	1,726 10 6	7 14 0

4. Even, however, after the above allowances have been made, the figures which after such reduction would stand as follows do not compare altogether favourably with those of 1896:—

Cases.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Looted.	Recovered.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
30	266	84	9,140 6 6	75 15 3

The falling off is not, however, such I think as to be cause for any anxiety, and I am unable to attach any blame to any of the staff of the Agency who have throughout worked energetically and zealously.

5. The main point in which the return for the present year compares unfavourably with the previous year is in the numbers arrested with regard to the numbers concerned. This, however is, I think, again to be traced to the same cause.

In all cases of what I have called mere "famine dakaitis" frequently a large number of men have collected to commit the offence and have immediately afterwards disbanded and left but little trace; whilst the nature of the property looted has, moreover, left but little clue to work upon; whilst the Darbars have, in many cases, not regarded such offences as serious dakaitis and have not displayed the energy or interest in working them out which such more serious cases would have excited; and consequently, for the numbers concerned, a larger proportion have escaped detection and arrest.

6. Again I would invite attention to the fact that out of the total return for 1897 as shown in paragraph 2 above—

Cases.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Looted.	Recovered.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
9	143	15	6,565 2 0	15 3 9

were all committed in Orchha and Datia by gangs of well known and proclaimed dakaitis under the leadership of Gajraj Singh of Bakshanpur and Dalip Singh and Nahar Singh of Karar Khara belonging to Gwalior territory, who after committing these dakaitis in the above-mentioned States have immediately retired across the Bundelkhand border into Gwalior.

7. The 41 dakaitis were distributed between the various States in this Agency as shown below:—

Datia.—14 dakaitis, of which 7 were worked out—*viz.*, (1) Teletha, (2) Roor, (3) Malak Pahari, (4) Bara, (5) Bara Bazurg, (6) China, (7) Sakwa. Of these 3 were worked out by the Thagi and Dakaiti Sub-agency and 4 by the Datia Darbar. In the total 14 cases there were 208 persons concerned:—

Arrested	...	...	...	...	43
At large	...	...	...	...	165

Panna.—11 dakaitis of which 5 cases—*viz.*, (1) Lahariya, (2) Methan, (3) Methan jungle, near the Bajoria Nullah, (4) Lunwaha, (5) road between Kari and Jamanjhari—were cases of pure famine dakaiti.

In the total 11 dakaitis there were:—

Persons concerned	...	...	...	...	96
Arrested	...	...	...	...	10
At large	...	...	...	...	86

Of the 11 dakaitis, 3 cases only were worked out by the Panna Darbar.

Bijawar.—6 dakaitis, of which 2—*viz.*, (1) Jakhron Kalan, (2) Gohamar—were worked out; the former by the Darbar and the latter by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

In the 6 dakaitis there were:—

Concerned	...	...	...	...	...	43
Arrested	...	...	...	...	...	14
At large	...	...	...	...	...	29

Orchha.—5 dakaitis, of which 2 cases were worked out—*viz.*, (1) Hattoh, (2) Rajpura; the former by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department and the latter by the Darbar through the assistance of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

In the total 5 dakaitis there were—

Concerned	...	...	...	...	...	62
Arrested	...	...	...	...	...	8
At large	...	...	...	...	...	54

The whole of the above were committed by gangs belonging to the Gwalior territory.

Samthar.—3 dakaitis, of which 2 cases—*viz.*, Amrokh and Bhujond—were worked out by the Darbar.

In the 3 dakaitis there were—

Concerned	...	...	...	...	...	61
Arrested	...	...	...	...	...	22
At large	...	...	...	...	...	39

Of the 22, only 4 were convicted, 10 have been acquitted and 8 are still under trial.

Chhatarpur.—1 dakaiti in the village of Gor by a gang belonging to Orchha State. This case was worked out by the Orchha Darbar with assistance of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department—

Concerned	...	...	11	
Arrested	...	...	11	Who are all under trial by Chhatarpur Darbar, the whole of accused having been extradited by the Orchha State.

Alampur (Indore).—1 dakaiti in Bhitari.

This was purely a famine dakaiti. In this case 11 were concerned who are all at present at large.

The case is being worked out and a clue has been obtained.

8. The following is a list of the cases worked out by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department:—

- (1) Hattoh (Orchha), dated 2nd January 1897—arrested 1, at large 2.
- (2) Tuletha (Datia), dated 8th January 1897—arrested 1, at large (not certain).
- (3) Rur (Datia), dated 13th January 1897—arrested 1, at large 8.
- (4) Malak Pahari (Datia), dated 8th February 1897—arrested 10 by orders of the Assistant General Superintendent of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, Indore, who were all subsequently discharged by the Datia Darbar.

This case occurred before I assumed charge of the Agency and seems to me to call for further enquiry which I propose to institute in the matter.

- (5) Gor (Chhatarpur), dated 13th February 1897—arrested 11. These men, though actually arrested by Orchha Police and Darbar, were really tracked down by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

In addition to the above, there were the following four dakaitis committed in previous years (1895 and 1896), but which have been worked out by the Department in the present year:—

- (i) Ganesh Khera (Orchha), dated 7th November 1896.
- (ii) Hattoh (Orchha), dated 24th November 1896.
- (iii) Sanwani (Panna), dated 14th May 1895.
- (iv) Pathapur (Charkhari), dated 14th November 1896.

With regard to the above in cases (i) and (ii), one man was arrested in each case; in (No. iii) a case of dakaiti, with murder, out of 6 concerned, 4 were arrested and 2 are at large; and in (No. iv), out of 31 concerned, 22 were arrested.

The total number therefore arrested in the year 1897 by the instrumentality of the Thagi and Dakaiti Sub-agency amounts to 41.

9. The following statement shows convictions by the various Darbars in 1897 on account of dakaiti cases :—

Ajaigarh	...	...	1	accused to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment.
Fauna	...	...	4	accused, each to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment.
Datia	...	...	3	accused each to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment, and discharged 10.
Samthar	...	...	4	accused, 2 to two years' and 2 to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment, and acquitted 10.

Churkhari—1 accused to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment.

Chhatarpur ... 5 hanged; 1 transported for life.

Cantonment Magistrate ... 26 to various terms of imprisonment; and

Political Agent ... 1 transportation for life and 1 to 7 years' rigorous imprisonment.

All of which convictions were received through the instrumentality of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

10. There are practically no criminal tribes in the Bundelkhand Agency, though certain efforts are being made to control the movements of certain Chandrabhedis in Datia, Orchha and Alampur (Indore). No criminals belonging to wandering criminal tribes have been arrested during the past year.

11. There have been no cases reported of poisoning for the sake of plunder.

12. Inspector Dyal Singh Gyani has been in charge of the Agency throughout the year. I have a very high opinion of this officer, who is both capable and energetic, and has worked hard and successfully during the period for which I have been in charge of the Bundelkhand Agency. He has tact and gets on well with the Darbars, and I look upon his presence here as highly important to the efficient working of the Agency, which, owing to the fact that there are so many small and inaccessible Darbars to deal with, is one of exceptional difficulty, and I trust that in the interest of the Bundelkhand States this Inspector may not be removed at present from his present appointment, though I look upon him in every way qualified for promotion or any increment of pay to which he may become entitled.

Deputy Inspector Gokul Singh.—This officer in August 1897 reverted to his original appointment in the Panjab Police, and I have had no opportunity of personally judging of his work.

Deputy Inspector Narain Sing.—Joined this Agency in August 1897 on the departure of Gokul Singh, and I have every reason to be satisfied with his work.

Dafadar Ram Narain.—Is a good man and works well under the orders of the Inspector and Deputy Inspector. He is intelligent, hardworking and is in my opinion qualified to receive any yearly increment of pay to which he may become entitled.

Najibs are all well reported on by the Inspector who states that they are willing, obedient and zealous, and they are all in my opinion qualified for any increment of pay to which they may become entitled.

13. I have no suggestion to offer towards improving the working of the Department in this Agency.

J. R. C. COLVIN, Captain,
Political Agent, Bundelkhand.

No. 628-C., dated Camp *viâ* Sutna, the 24th February 1898.

From—CAPTAIN A. PINHEY, Political Agent, Baghelkhand,

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, Indore.

I have the honour to submit the annual report on Thagi and Dakaiti within the States of the Baghelkhand Agency for the year ending 31st December 1897.

2. No cases of thagi were reported.

3. Five cases of dakaiti occurred. Of these four are reported from the Kamta Rajaula Jagir and one from the Rewah State. The details of each case are entered in the accompanying return.

4. The perpetrators of the dakaiti in the Rewah State were residents of villages Marwahi and Lohara of the Bilaspur District in the Central Provinces. They did not belong to any regular or organised band of criminals, but were merely local bad characters actuated to commit this crime by the prevailing scarcity. The following sentences were passed on them :—

1. Gambhir Singh	} Three years' rigorous imprisonment each.
2. Ghanai, Gond	...	...	...	...
3. Sudan	...	...	...	...
4. Guman, Gond	...	...	...	...
5. Kanthai Pauka	...	...	...	...
6. Ramri Bharia	...	...	...	...
7. Dadu Kewat	...	...	...	...
8. Jagatdari Singh	Acquitted.

5. The dakaitis in the Kamta Rajaula Jagir were the work of certain notoriously bad characters of the surrounding villages of the Banda District and the Chaube Jagirs. They are not regular dakaitis, but were encouraged to commit these offences by the inefficiency of the Kamta Police.

6. The following sentences were passed in the Paikarman dakaiti case of the 10th February 1897 by the Political Agent, Baghelkhand :—

1. Ramdhani, son of Ram Das	} Five years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500 each, or in default of payment of fine six months' further rigorous imprisonment.
2. Sheonath Singh, son of Raghunath Singh...	...	...	...	...
3. Gayadin, son of Bara	...	...	...	...
4. Nandu, son of Ganesh	...	...	...	...
5. Ansuiya, son of Kulla	...	...	...	...
6. Ansuiya, son of Hazari	...	...	...	...
7. Manohar Das, Bairagi	} Four years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 each, or in default of payment of fine four months' further rigorous imprisonment.
8. Ram Adhin, Garg, son of Ram Gopal	...	...	...	...
9. Madhur Ali	} Two years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50 each, or in default of payment of fine three months' further rigorous imprisonment.
10. Sarjoo Das	...	...	...	...
11. Vishnu	...	...	...	...
12. Bhawani	...	...	...	...
13. Balla	...	...	...	...
14. Ram Bisal	...	...	...	...
15. Gaya	...	...	...	...
16. Mahadeo Rao	...	...	...	...
17. Sheoram	...	...	...	...
18. Ram Adhin, Lohar	} Six months' rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 10 fine, or one month's further imprisonment in default.
19. Dina, Ahir	...	...	...	...
20. Bihari, Ahir	...	...	...	...
21. Ram Adhin, Kachhi, son of Beru	...	...	...	...
22. Sundar Das	} Pardoned under section 337, Criminal Procedure Code.
23. Bhagwan Das	...	...	...	...
24. Raghunath Das	} Discharged for want of sufficient evidence.

The Inspector of the Agency Police conducted the preliminary police investigation in this case with tact and diligence.

7. All the accused in the other dakaiti cases were discharged for want of sufficient evidence against them, and this was entirely due to the apathy and negligence of the Jagirdar of Kampta.

8. The offenders of the Ghusram and Basoda dakaitis of 1896 were also brought to trial during the year under report and were sentenced on conviction as shown below :—

I.—Ghusram Dakaiti.

1. Mandu Singh	Four years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 each, or in default of payment to further rigorous imprisonment for one year.
2. Sheo Mangal Ram	...	...	...	...
3. Narain Singh	...	...	...	...
4. Durbijay Singh	...	...	...	...
5. Ram Nath Singh	...	...	...	...
6. Surajbhan Singh	...	...	...	...
7. Lallu Singh	...	...	...	...
8. Sada Singh	...	...	...	...
9. Chhutu Singh	...	...	...	...
10. Goleram	...	...	...	...
11. Hardin Kol	...	...	...	...
12. Chhutua Kol	...	...	...	...
13. Debi Kol	...	...	...	...
14. Raghua Kol	...	...	...	...
15. Girnari Singh <i>alias</i> Girdhar Singh	...	...	...	...
16. Surajman Singh	Accepted as Queen's evidence and released.

Warrants have also been issued against the following persons, but they have not yet been arrested :—

1. Narain Sing <i>alias</i> Lalan Singh	Residents of the Allahabad District. Of the Rewa State.
2. Bachu Singh	...	...	...
3. Sheo Mangal Singh	...	...	...
4. Bhure Singh	...	...	...

II.—Basonda Dakaiti.

1. Dubaria	Rigorous imprisonment for three years.
2. Bharat	...	...	...	...
3. Hannu	...	...	...	...
4. Nandu	...	...	...	...
5. Nandan	...	...	...	...
6. Dasmal	...	...	...	...
7. Kharia	...	...	...	...
8. Sheoratan	...	...	...	...
9. Bulchu	...	...	...	...
10. Baikal	...	...	...	...
11. Kuber Baiga	...	...	...	...
12. Rangrup Bhurtiya	Died before trial.
13. Sheobaran	...	...	...	...
14. Ratna	...	...	...	...
15. Kurya	...	...	...	...
16. Barjan	Still at large.
17. Hiranman	...	...	...	...

No. 590, dated Neemuch, the 12th April 1898.

From—CAPTAIN W. M. CUBITT, Political Agent in Malwa,

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore.

In accordance with rule 51 of the Thagi and Dakaiti Manual, I have the honour to submit a short report on the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department in this Agency for the year 1897.

(1) A return of the dakaitis, including highway robberies, with a description of each as reported by the various Darbars, is attached.

It shows 26 cases as per margin, in some of which the further reports from the States concerned have not yet been received. In the remainder the results of the enquiries are shown in the several columns of the return.

Gwalior	...	...	...	13
Ratlam	...	...	...	5
Indore	...	...	...	3
Jaora	...	...	...	2
Sailana	...	...	...	2
Sitamau	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	26

(2) No cases have been brought to notice by the officials of the Department attached to this Agency : nor have any cases been enquired into them, as none of the Darbars, although asked, wished for their interference or assistance.

(3) The number of dakaitis convicted by the States is as follows—vide return I :—

Gwalior in four cases	...	...	...	...	31
Ratlam in one case	...	...	...	...	2
					33

No conviction was made through the instrumentality of the Department.

(4) The number of persons charged with dakaiti and acquitted by the Darbars was as follows :—

Gwalior in two cases	...	...	...	...	12
Ratlam in one case	...	...	...	...	6
					18

(5) The condition of the criminal tribes in Malwa is exceedingly good. The Darbars have cheerfully accepted the revised rules which appear to work well.

During my recent cold weather tour I made detailed inspections of the Moghias in each of the following places :—

- (1) All the Moghias in the Nimach Soubah (Gwalior) on 15th and 16th December 1897 at Nimach.
- (2) All the Moghias of Naraingarh, Antri, Manasa and Nandwas, in the Naraingarh Pargana of Holkar, on 20th December 1897 at Pant Piplia.
- (3) All the Moghias of the Mandisor Soubah (Gwalior) on 21st December 1897 at Mandisor and on 22nd December at Dilauda.
- (4) All the Moghias of the Jaora District (Jaora State) on 26th December 1897 at Jaora.
- (5) All the Moghias of the whole Ratlam State on 29th December 1897 at Ratlam.
- (6) All the Moghias of the Sailana State on 6th January 1898 at Sailana.
- (7) All the Moghias of the Piploda State on 9th January 1898 at Piploda, and
- (8) All the Moghias of the Sitamau State at Sitamau on 19th January 1898.

The complaint (if any) of each Moghia was personally enquired into by me, and where cause existed the matter was referred either to the Motamid or the Darbar Vakil, or both, and suitable orders passed.

A detailed report in vernacular showing the result of each inspection has been submitted by me to the General Superintendent.

I also attach a short report by Mr. Waterfield showing what he did in Malwa.*

(6) Nothing has been done with regard to recognition.

(7) Table attached shows the number of wandering Moghias arrested and sent back to their places of residence.

(8) Afzal Shah has recently been promoted from Deputy Inspector to Inspector. He is an excellent man and thoroughly up in his work, while he and his subordinates have all given me satisfaction. If Dafadar Duni Chand be eligible for an increment under rule 127, I recommend that he get it.

(9) No particular difficulties in regard to crime with Native States or British districts have arisen.

(10) I have no suggestions to offer. During the past year the work of this Sub-agency has been purely clerical, as none of the Darbars in this Agency wished for aid from the Department. This report was written by my predecessor, Major R. H. Jennings, who was unable, however, to submit it before proceeding on transfer to Alwar, owing to the necessary returns not being ready.

No. 430, dated Sardarpur, the 16th February 1898.

From—CAPTAIN W. H. M. STEWART, Political Agent, Bhopawar, Central India,

To—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore.

As requested by the General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department, in his letter No. 43, dated 8th ultimo, I have the honour to submit a brief report on the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Departmental Agency for the year 1897.

1. Ninety-five cases of dakaiti involving a total loss of Rs. 16,185-9-3 were recorded during the year as per accompanying statement from information furnished by the Darbars.

2. Of these, 9 cases were brought to notice and 3* were enquired into by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department.

* Agra-Bombay Road	...	...	1
Deola	...	...	2
Total	...	...	3

3. Of the 384 persons shown in the return as arrested on suspicion of dakaiti, 62 were arrested by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, of whom 39 were made over to Native States concerned for trial, and 23 implicated in Deola and Agra-Bombay Road dakaitis were committed to the Political Agent, Bhopawar, who sentenced them to various terms of imprisonment.

The Inspector further arrested 38 persons concerned in the marginally

Tinchia (Indore)	...	...	36
Bhandariapura	...	...	1
Bargam Kheri	...	...	1

noted cases and handed them over to the States concerned.

In all 77 persons were arrested and surrendered by the Thagi and Dakaiti Department to the Native States.

4. The number of the persons acquitted by the Native States was 55: one of the dakaitis named Sardaria, arrested in connection with the Begda (Aliraj-pore) dakaiti, received pardon from the Political Agent on condition of implicating his accomplices.

5. The Political Agent has not visited the district inhabited by Moghias, the only criminal tribe settled in this Agency. Deputy Inspector Azim Ali inspected the Moghias and submitted a detailed report to the Political Agent who addressed several Thakurs regarding a grant of land in certain cases.

The Inspector accompanied the Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti Department, on his inspection of the Moghia colonies in December 1897.

6. No further measures were adopted for the recognition of criminals.

7. Five Moghias were found wandering without tickets. The Inspector supplied them with tickets and sent them back to their respective abode.

The Inspector also met a gang of 43 Kekaris, who were made over to the Dhar authorities for disposal.

8. Owing to increase of the crime of dakaiti consequent on the scarcity prevailing in the Agency, the Inspector was, in May 1897, sent by the Political Agent in charge of a company of 100 men of Malwa Bhil Corps to take measures for the suppression of crime and capture of dakaits.

The Inspector accordingly made rounds in the Narbadda Valley within a radius of 100 miles from head-quarters, and he not only kept peace in the country but also captured several dakaits and made them over to the Native States concerned. He returned to head-quarters in July 1897 when the rains set in.

The Inspector succeeded, with the help of the Mhow Cantonment Police, in arresting a band of notorious Bandi Gauli dakaits, who had robbed some carts on the Agra-Bombay Road near Mhow.

He enquired into a case of dakaiti committed at Tinchia, Purgana Mhow (Indore State), not within the jurisdiction of the Bhopawar Agency, capturing 36 men, who had taken part in the case.

Property valued at Rs. 1,000 plundered in the Kesar dakaiti was recovered by him, as also Rs. 135 worth of property in theft cases.

During the absence of Inspector Abal Khan on duty, Azim Ali, Deputy Inspector, worked out information furnished by Najib Indarjit Singh, which led to the discovery of 2 cases of attempted dakaiti at Deola, about 3 miles from Sardarpur, resulting in the conviction and sentence of the 6 sepoys of the Malwa Bhil Corps, who had planned this dakaiti. The services rendered by Najib Indarjit Singh in this case are highly commendable and deserve special consideration. With the previous consent obtained of the Political Agent, he took prominent part with gang of sepoys, who had organised themselves into a band to commit depredations in the neighbourhood of Sardarpur. Had it not been for the negligence of the sawars of the Central India Horse, who had been sent out by Mr. De Laessoe to follow and capture the gang, the men would have been caught red-handed, but the sawars began to discharge volleys, which alarmed the dakaits, who took to flight. Indarjit Singh, however taking possession of a gun with which one of the dakaits was armed, proved to the satisfaction of the Court the complicity of the sepoys in this case of dakaiti. During the period of his service of upwards of 18 years the Najib has succeeded in capturing several of the proclaimed offenders of the Department, in the Bundelkhand Agency, for which he received rewards, but was superseded by his juniors in promotion. It is strongly recommended that he be promoted to the grade of a Dafadar when the next opportunity occurs.

Inspector Abal Khan and Deputy Inspector Azim Ali are efficient executive police officers deserving of promotion to which they are entitled.

9. There were no frontier difficulties in regard to crime in the neighbouring Native States or British Districts.

10. For the satisfactory carrying out of the operations of the Department, it is absolutely necessary that the services of a few experienced approvers acquainted with this part of the country may be placed at the disposal of this Sub-Agency.

W. H. M. STEWART, *Captain,*
Political Agent, Bhopawar.

APPENDIX C.

No. 1485-G., dated the 27th April 1898.

From—The First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana,

To—The Political Agent, Eastern States, Rajputana.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 19-C., dated 1st April 1898, enclosing and commenting upon a report, dated 26th January 1898, in which Mr. H. Clogstoun, First Assistant General Superintendent, Thagi and Dakaiti, Ajmere, describes the proceedings taken in the years 1896-98 with the object of reducing to proper control the Gujars of the Dholpur State inhabiting the broken ground in the vicinity of the Chambal River, and of breaking up the gangs of dakaitis which from time to time issued from these parts for the purpose of committing crime in adjacent States.

2. The Agent to the Governor-General has read with attention these papers together with the preceding correspondence connected with the same subject. In his opinion they form an interesting record of useful operations successfully carried out in the face of considerable difficulties by the Departmental officers acting in close co-operation with the several Native States concerned and with the Political Officers attached to them. The Dholpur Dhang villages, which were notoriously the haunt of criminals, have been thoroughly overhauled, and a census has been made of their male inhabitants,—75 persons have been arrested, of whom 60 have been sent up for trial for complicity in recent dakaitis, 2 have died, 7 have been made witnesses and 6 still await trial. Crime has at least temporarily been stopped in the tracts they frequented. Arrangements have been started for improving the cultivation facilities of the villagers, for keeping them under closer observation, and for recruiting from their numbers for the army.

3. The Agent to the Governor-General agrees with you in considering that the cordial co-operation of His Highness the Maharaj Bana of Dholpur, without whose active support the difficulty of carrying out these measures would have been greatly enhanced, deserves warm commendation. He also endorses the view held by yourself and your immediate predecessors, Colonel Newill and Mr. Colvin, that to the tact, energy, and untiring exertions of Mr. H. Clogstoun and his Lieutenant, Inspector Abdul Salam Khan, their success is mainly due.

4. To secure lasting results, continuous efforts should be made to improve the *status* of the villagers in this difficult river-side tract. The Agent to the Governor-General understands that you concur with Mr. Colvin in the opinion that it is not necessary to carry out Colonel Loch's proposal to move the villages altogether from their present sites. He would be glad, therefore, to learn in greater detail what practical measures are in progress, and suggested for assisting the people to improve and extend their cultivated lands, and whether it is thought desirable that Police Thanas should be located in the neighbourhood, to be paid for in whole or in part by the people themselves until the peace and order of the district is assured.